JOHN BULL.

"FOR GOD, THE SOVEREIGN, AND THE PEOPLE!"

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SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1885.

PRICE 6D. By Post 6½D.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY,

NEW BRIDGE STREET, LONDON, E.C.

Incorporated in the year 1847 under Act 7 and 8 Vict., cap. 110, and further empowered by Special Act 15 Vic., cap. 53.

Accumulated Fund	£1,028,215
Annual Income, nearly	£200,000
Profits already appropriated	£847,000
Claims paid	£1,230,133
Policies in force	£4,793 942

POLICIES ABSOLUTELY INDISPUTABLE after five years, provided the age of the Assured has been admitted.

POLICIES KEPT IN FORCE when requested by appropriating the Surrender Value to the payment of premiums.

Assurers under the TEMPERANCE SCHEME are placed in a separate Section.

Policies may be effected under the DEFERRED BONUS plan.

EDWIN BOWLEY, Secretary.

NORTH BRITISH AND MERCANTILE INSURANCE COMPANY.

Authorised Capital, £3,000,000. Subscribed Capital, £2,000,000, Paid-up Capital, £625,000.

RESOURCES OF THE COMPANY as at 31st December, 1883.

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The Net Premiums received during the year 1883, after deducting re-insurances, amounted to £1,107,745 9s. 9d.

The Net Losses by Fire during the year were, after deducting re-insurances, £672,825 13s. 10d.

This embraces not merely all losses actually ascertained and paid, but a full estimate of all claims that had arisen prior to 31st December.

The Fire Funds, after payment of the Dividend and Bonus aftermentioned, and irrespective of the Paid-up Capital, are as follow:—

Reserve	£1,170,000	0	0
Premium Reserve	369,248	9	11
Balance of Profit and Loss Account	52,986	15	3
	£1,592,235	5	2

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

894 new Policies were issued during the year, assuring	£314,819	0	0
The new Premiums on which amount to the sum of	29,572	1	5
The claims sustained during the year, including 16 endowments, were 296 in number, arising under 397 policies, and the sums payable, after deducting re-assurances, amounted, with bonus additions, to	346,122	4	4
The Income for the year of the Life Branch from premiums and interest amounted to	471,407	15	7
In the Annuity Branch 83 bonds were granted, securing annuities to the amount of £5,590 12s. 7d. yearly, for which was received by single payment the sum of	59,520	11	6
The Life Fund, now amounts to	3,340,918	11	2
The Annuity Fund now amounts to	500,275	17	11

LIFE DEPARTMENT.—The PRINCIPLES on which this Company was founded, and on which it continues to act, combine the system of Mutual Assurance with the safety of a large Protecting Capital and Accumulated Funds. NINETY PER CENT. of the WHOLE PROFITS is divided among the Assurers on the Participating Scale. The PROFITS are divided every Five Years. POLICIES are INDISPUTABLE after Five Years.

London: 61, Threadneedle-street, E.C.; West-end Office, 8, Waterloo-place, S.W. Edinburgh: 64, Princes-street.

ROYAL EXCHANGE ASSURANCE CORPORATION.

(Established by Royal Charter, A.D. 1720),

For Sea, Fire, Life, and Annuities.

CHIEF OFFICE, ROYAL EXCHANGE, LONDON:

BRANCH, 43A, PALL MALL.

The Accumulated Funds exceed £4,000,000.

The Total Claims paid by this Corporation have exceeded

THIRTY-THREE MILLIONS Sterling.

FIRE ASSURANCES on liberal terms.

LIFE ASSURANCES with or without participation in profits. Divisions of Profit every Five Years.

Persons whose lives are assured with this Corporation on the Bonus or Non-Bonus system incur no Mutual Liabilities as Partners, nor do they depend upon an uncertain Fund; the large INVESTED CAPITAL-STOCK of the Corporation affords unquestionable Security for the fulfilment of its engagements.

All real improvements in modern practice, with the security of an office whose resources have been tested by the experience of more than a CENTURY AND A-HALF.

The Corporation are open to consider applications for Agencies,

A Prospectus, Table of Bonus, and Balance Sheet will be forwarded on application.

E. R. HANDCOCK, Secretary.

PHŒNIX FIRE OFFICE,

LOMBARD ST. AND CHARING CROSS, LONDON.

Established 1782.

Insurances against Loss By Fire and Lightning effected in all parts of the World.

Loss claims arranged with promptitude and liberality.

WILLIAM C. MACDONALD } Joint
FRANCIS B. MACDONALD } Secretaries.

SCRIPTURE READERS' SOCIETY for IRELAND.—Established 1822.

PRESIDENT—The Right Hon. the EARL OF SHAFTESBURY, K.G.

Offices: 27, Lower Pembroke-street, Dublin, and 9, Paternoster row, London.

Full particulars, Reports, &c., can be obtained post free on application to the Secretary, Capt. JAS. KEARNEY WHITE.

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL, KINGSLAND ROAD.

FUNDS urgently NEEDED for building and general purposes. Bankers—Messrs. Glyn, Mills, and Co., 67, Lombard-street. GEO. CROXTON, Secretary.

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Tottenham Court Road.

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MAPLE and CO., Upholsterers by special appointment to Her Majesty.—The largest FURNISHING ESTABLISHMENT in the world. Acres of show rooms for the display of every possible description of household requisites.

MAPLE and CO., Timber Merchants and direct Importers of the finest Woods to be found in Africa, Asia, and America, and Manufacturers of Cabinet Furniture in various woods by steam power.

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MAPLE and CO.—The Specimen Rooms are good examples of high-class DECORATIVE FURNISHING, carried out in perfect taste, without extravagant expenditure. Everyone one about to furnish, or re-arrange their residences, would derive information by an inspection.

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CURTAINS.—MAPLE and CO. are now SHOWING their SPRING NOVELTIES in Crete, Cyprus, Madras, and Tabretz MUSLINS. Many of these are quite unique in arrangement of colouring and design, some being copies of ancient Eastern embroideries, others with borderings representing tapestry designs; but the variety of these lovely fabrics is so large, that it is simply impossible to give details. Prices from so low as 14s. 9d. per pair. An early inspection is invited.

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EMBROIDERIES.—MAPLE and CO. have a most wonderful Variety of EMBROIDERIES collected from the Palaces, Mosques, and Harems of the East. Many are suitable for portières, panels, altar decorations, screens, cushions, brackets, or antimaccassars. Prices for the latter range from 1s. to 10s. 9d. each. Amongst the collection are some very rare and curious specimens, such as are sought after and greatly prized by connoisseurs.

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11ft. 4in. by 8ft. 3in.	£6	10	0
12ft. 0in. by 10ft. 6in.	7	15	0
13ft. 0in. by 11ft. 9in.	8	10	0
14ft. 9in. by 11ft. 0in.	9	15	0
15ft. 0in. by 11ft. 10in.	11	15	0

INDIAN CARPETS, five thousand to select from:—

12ft. 6in. by 8ft. 6in.	£6	0	0
12ft. 0in. by 9ft. 3in.	7	0	0
13ft. 3in. by 8ft. 3in.	8	0	0
13ft. 3in. by 9ft. 3in.	8	5	0

MAPLE and CO., Tottenham-court-road, London.

PERSIAN CARPETS, extra qualities:—

10ft. 3in. by 7ft. 4in.	£6	15	0
14ft. 2in. by 9ft. 6in.	10	10	0
14ft. 7in. by 10ft. 2in.	11	10	0
12ft. 4in. by 11ft. 11in.	14	10	0

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MAPLE and CO.—A manufacturer's stock of stout BRUSSELS CARPETS, at 2s. 11d. per yard, usually sold at 3s. 3d.; best quality Tapestry Brussels (but old patterns), at 1s. 10d. and 2s. per yard; stout Tapestry Carpet, 1s. 3½d per yard. 3,000 carpets, a great variety of patterns, in all sizes, ready made up, in stock, which can be laid same day as ordered.

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Anxious to extend the usefulness of this Old Charity to the many poor women hitherto unable to obtain its succour in their hour of trial, the Committee have been compelled to sell out funded property to enable them to issue a thousand Supplementary Tickets, trusting to the liberality of a generous public to make up the deficiency.

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For the Relief of the Ruptured Poor throughout the Kingdom.

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JOHN WHITTINGTON, Secretary.

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THE CONSERVATIVE LAND SOCIETY, enrolled under 6 and 7 Will. IV., cap. 32, as "The Conservative Benefit Building Society."—Notice is Hereby Given that the ONE HUNDRED and THIRTY-SECOND QUARTERLY GENERAL MEETING of the MEMBERS will be held at the OFFICES, No. 33, Norfolk-street, Strand, London, W.C., on TUESDAY, the 6th day of October, 1885, at Two o'clock precisely, Viscount RANELAGH, K.C.B., in the Chair, to receive the Report of the Executive Committee, to elect two members under Rule 30 as Auditors to audit the Accounts of the Society for the financial year ending September 30th, 1885, and for general purposes. The following members have given notice that they are Candidates for the office of Auditor:—J. H. Hiley, Esq., 32, Great George-street, Westminster; W. Griffith, Esq., Barrister-at-Law, Great Turnstile Chambers, Lincoln's-Inn; Mr. Robert Minton, Public Accountant, 1, Gresham Buildings, Basinghall-street, E.C.; and Mr. Thomas Russel, Public Accountant, 7, Union-Court, Old Broad-street, E.C.

By order of the Board,

CHARLES BELTON, Secretary.

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Being without sugar, spice, or other admixture, it suits all palates, keeps for years in all climates, and is four times the strength of cocoas THICKENED yet WEAKENED with starch, &c. and IN REALITY CHEAPER, than such mixtures, made instantaneously with boiling water, a teaspoonful to a Breakfast Cup costing less than a halfpenny.

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Advertisements of Clerical, Educational, and Domestic Wants and Vacancies will be received for insertion in this Column at the uniform charge of 2s. for 40 words, and 6d. for every additional ten words. Prepayment must in all cases be made, in stamps under 5s., above that by P.O.O. payable at Fleet Street Money Order Office.

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CURATE. Priest, £130; Deacon, £120. Title for Advent. Must train choir. Surburban and healthy. Address Vicar, Wincobank, Sheffield.

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CURATE WANTED. Priest. Small country parish. Diocese Southwell. Address M. M. H., Sutton Rectory, Chesterfield.

CURATE WANTED, for Aston, Birmingham. Evangelical. Stipend £150. Apply to Rev. W. Eliot, Aston Vicarage, Birmingham.

WANTED, a CURATE for quasi sole charge, in a scattered parish in Hants. Pop. 1,000, about. High Church. Single. Stipend £150—£175. Apply Rev. H. D. Browne, Monk Sherborne Rectory, Basingstoke.

LOCUM TENENS REQUIRED, for country parish in the diocese of Oxford, from October 1st to middle of November, perhaps longer. Good vicarage-house. Address Graduate, c.o. Mr. Ridley, Princes Risboro', Bucks.

WANTED, a LOCUM TENENS, for part or whole of October, in a beautiful parish in Surrey. Duty light. Must be active, good reader and preacher, and a good Churchman. Apartments may be had one mile from the church. Salary £3 per week. Apply Rector, Wotton, Dorking.

EXCHANGE. Neighbourhood much sought after. Within easy reach of London. Moderate population. Desired, London or Town Parish, £500 and Curate.—Rector, 13, Promenade-villas, Cheltenham.

CURACY, or Sole Charge, WANTED, bracing, southern county; in or near country town, mod. Evang., by Rev. F. Carus-Wilson, Stonewall, Edenbridge.

CURACY, or Sole Charge, WANTED, by Priest. Eight yrs.' exp.; five in charge of important district. Mod. High. Musical. Married; no family. £150. Good references.—Beta, c.o, Mr. Holman, grocer, Littlebourne, Wingham, Kent.

CURATE WANTED, for St. Saviour's, Birmingham. Evangelical Churchman. Earnestness and efficiency required. Full Orders and under thirty-two preferred. Stipend £160—£170. Address Rev. N. Parker, Lozells-grove, Chain-walk, Birmingham.

CURATE WANTED (unmarried), for a large country parish, bracing. A good Churchman; principles of Reformers, Hooker. Address Rev. E. S. Woods, Ash-next-Sandwich.

SEA-SIDE CURACY VACANT, through Curate's promotion. Splendid church, restored. Hearty services. Frequent celebrations. E.P. Pop. 3,700. Stipend £140. Desired, Priest, graduate, decided Churchman. Able to intone.—Vicar, Hythe, Kent.

WANTED, LOCUM TENENS, for six months at least, from October, for healthy village in Berks. Pop. 500. Bracing air. Unmarried. Board and lodging in vicarage with aged Vicar requiring companionship and rest from work. Duty light. Private means desirable. Good neighbourhood. Address the Rector, Coton, Cambridge.

ILFRACOMBE.—EXCHANGE for four Sundays after Oct. 4. Magnificent view; grand sea-coast. Climate mild but bracing. Two bedrooms and dressing-rooms offered and required. No accommodation for children. Liberal views. Curate left in charge. Inland scenery desired, or near London.—Vicar, SS. Philip and James, Ilfracombe.

CURACY WANTED, in the Chester diocese. Apply Curate, Lockyer's Private Hotel, Llandudno.

CURACY WANTED, in Worc. diocese, with Title for Priest's Orders at Lent. Country or small town. Mod. High Churchman.—Rev. P. Rose, Cogenhoe Rectory, Northampton.

CURACY, with Title, WANTED, for Advent, York dio. by B.A. Durham. South Yorks preferred. Highest refs.—C. S., Dr. Sykes, Mexboro', near Rotherham.

CURACY, or Sole Charge, by Cambridge Graduate. Single. Musical. C.E.T.S. Experienced in reading and visiting.—Amicus, 14, William-place, Boston.

WANTED, By Priest, SOLE or QUASI CHARGE. Agr., warm house. Views mod. Good refrs. and tests.—Curate, Bellerby, Leyburn, Yorks.

WANTED, SOLE CHARGE, or Curacy. Village. House. Married, no family.—Curate-in-Charge, Welbury Rectory, Northallerton.

CHARGE, or good Curacy, DESIRED, in October, by married Clergyman aged forty. Had charge of present parish four and a half years. No extremes. Has clear voice; is musical, fond of work, and used to London and country parishes. Can be recommended by Bishop. Stipend not less than £160 or equivalent.—Rev. Henry J. Fry, Farcet Rectory, Peterborough.

LOCUM TENENCY, or Temporary Duty, WANTED, October 13 or later. Priest. Single. References. £2 10s. weekly, or equivalent, at least.—M.A., Vine Cottage, South Newington, Banbury.

WANTED, a TUTOR, in nat. sci. (physics), also a certain amount of maths. and classics required. Salary low. Address, stating terms, J. L., Marlow Place, Marlow, Bucks.

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VENTILATING WATERPROOF COATS,

AND EVERY WATERPROOF REQUISITE FOR THE ANGLER.

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BROWN & POLSON'S CORN FLOUR

As BLANCMANGE, CUSTARD, BAKED or PUDDING.

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LOCUM TENENCY, or Sole Charge, WANTED, now, by an M.A., of eight years' experience. Good references. Thirty-seven, unmarried.—Curate-in-Charge, Ashton Keynes, W. Cricklade, Wilts.

A LADY strongly recommends an English GOVERNESS. Children under twelve. Good music, French, Latin.—Mrs. Horne, Drinkstone Rectory, Woolpit.

A LADY recommends her two years' English GOVERNESS. Literature, science, French and German (abroad), music, painting. Age thirty-two. Now at Eastbourne.—Miss P., Barker House, York.

RESIDENT GOVERNESS, or Companion.—Lady wishes to recommend her GOVERNESS, age twenty-six. English, piano, singing, French (acquired in Paris), and drawing. Salary £30 to £40.—M. H., Bank House, Cardiff.

WANTED, a GOVERNESS, for children under twelve. Thorough English, arithmetic, French, rud. Latin, music. Clergyman's family.—Mrs. Williams, Darwen-terrace, Old Trafford, Manchester.

WANTED, a NURSERY GOVERNESS, lady by birth, for three children, eldest six and a half, to take entire charge, with the wardrobes. Good needlewoman. Churchwoman and communicant. Answer, stating age, experience, and qualifications, to Mrs. Northey, Woodcote House, Epsom.

A CLERGYMAN'S DAUGHTER, aged nineteen, desires an engagement as COMPANION (musical), or as Governess to young children. Address Rev. W. Johnson, Repton, Burton-on-Trent.

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AS GOVERNESS-HOUSEKEEPER, by a Lady, fond of children and experienced. English, good music, rud. of Latin, French. Excellent references.—B. L., Bourne Villa, Acocks-green, near Birmingham.

A CLERGYMAN'S WIFE recommends her GOVERNESS. Thorough English, French, music, drawing, elementary Latin. London preferred.—S., Russell Cottage, Kenilworth.

AS UPPER-HOUSEMAID where under-housemaid is kept. Upwards of three years' character. Clever needlewoman. Church of England. State wages. Address M. Quine, Ywalchmai, the Valley, Anglesey, N. Wales.

AS LADY'S-MAID. Thoroughly understands duties. Good dressmaker, traveller, and packer. Good character. Twenty-eight. Wages £25, if all found. Address A. B., 15, Leopold-terrace, Fratton, Southsea.

A LADY wishes to recommend a nice-looking Girl, of twenty-one, as PARLOUR-MAID in a small family in the country. Apply to Mrs. E. Corbett, Lamport Hall, Northampton.

WANTED, HOUSEMAID, to wait at table. Age about twenty-five. Under-housemaid kept. Apply, stating all particulars, to Mrs. F., Seal Vicarage, Sevenoaks, Kent.

FRENCH or German NURSE WANTED near Liverpool. Youngest child nearly six. Good dressmaker essential. Good wages. State all particulars fully.—Mrs. Pilkington, the Hazels, Prescot, Lancashire.

WANTED, NURSE, able to bring up a child from a month old. Must not be under twenty-six. Good character, and a Churchwoman. Only one child in the family. Wages £20 and all found. Address Mrs. E. A. Gray, Woodley Vicarage, near Reading.

WANTED, in November, a HEAD-NURSE, for three little children. Good needlewoman. Not under twenty-six. A person of superior position would suit. A nursery-maid kept. Lady's recommendation valued. Address Mrs. A. H. Stevens, Farnham, Surrey.

A LADY wishes to recommend a Girl of fourteen as UNDER-NURSE. Steady, and a good sewer. Also, a LAD of fifteen, to be under a good coachman. Leaving for no fault. Two years' good character. Reply to Miss Onslow, Ivy Lodge, Great Malvern.

WANTED, for Clergyman's family, a superior Girl, of about eighteen, as NURSERY-MAID. One who has not been out before preferred, and she must have had good home training. Five young children. Nurseries waited upon. £10 and all found.—Mrs. Gascoigne, Bowdon, Cheshire.

MAN and WIFE WANTED, in School on S. coast. Man, boots, knives, waiting at table, and make himself useful; Wife, laundry, finding two days' help. Wages £1 10s. furnished rooms, coal, and soap. Churchpeople. Address Rev. W. Fairfield, Okehampton.

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HOLLOWAY'S PILLS.—No Mystery.—Whenever the blood is impure or the general health is impaired the human body is predisposed to attacks of any prevailing epidemic. The first indications of faulty action, the first sensations of deranged or diminished power, should be rectified by these purifying Pills, which will cleanse all corrupt and reduce all erring functions to order. These Pills counteract the subtle poisons in decaying animal or vegetable matter, and remove all tendency to bowel complaints, biliousness, and a host of annoying symptoms arising from foul stomachs. The fruit season is especially prone to produce irritation of the bowels and disorders of the digestive organs; both of which dangerous conditions can be completely removed by Holloway's corrective medicines.

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LYCEUM THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.0, OLIVIA.

ADELPHI THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, ARRAH-NA-POGUE.

PRINCESS'S THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8, HOODMAN BLIND.

STRAND THEATRE. — This Evening at 7.30, THE MARRIED RAKE. At 8.15, NICHOLAS NICKLEBY. At 9.15, COUSIN JOHNNY.

GAIETY THEATRE, STRAND.—This Evening, at 8, LORD DUNDREARY'S BROTHER SAM. At 9.45, THE VICAR OF WIDEAWAKEFIELD.

VAUDEVILLE THEATRE, Strand.—This Evening, at 8, NEARLY SEVERED. At 9, LOOSE TILES.

GLOBE THEATRE.—This Evening, at 9, THE PRIVATE SECRETARY. At 8, A BAD PENNY.

COURT THEATRE. — This Evening, at 8.30, THE MAGISTRATE.

SAVOY THEATRE.—This Evening, at 8.15, THE MIKADO: or, THE TOWN OF TITIPU.

BIRTHS.

July 14, at Newton-le-Willows, Lancashire, the wife of the Rev. WALTER R. H. PUGHE, M.A., of a son.

Aug. 7, at Allahabad, India, the wife of the Rev. A. O. HARDY, Bengal Chaplain, of a daughter.

Aug. 8, at Doonga Galle, Punjab, India, the wife of the Rev. F. J. MONTGOMERY, Chaplain, of a son.

Sept. 5, at The Forest, Snaresbrook, the wife of the Rev. T. E. B. GUY, of a daughter.

Sept. 7, at Woodeaton Rectory, Oxford, the wife of the Rev. R. HUTCHISON, of a daughter.

Sept. 7, at Bloxholm Rectory, Lincolnshire, the wife of the Rev. C. BARNES, of a son.

Sept. 8, at Thwaite St. Mary, Norfolk, the wife of the Rev. C. R. BRETT, of a son.

Sept. 9, at Pampisford Vicarage, near Cambridge, the wife of the Rev. A. E. CLARK-KENNEDY, of a daughter.

Sept. 11, at Holmwood, Winchfield, Hants, the wife of the Rev. CHARLES P. BERRYMAN, Rector of Laverstoke, of a daughter.

Sept. 11, at Leigh Park, Havant, Lady FITZWYGRAM, of a daughter.

Sept. 11, at Southampton, the wife of the Rev. EIMER JUDKINS, of a son.

Sept. 11, at Cambridge, the wife of the Rev. CHARLES H. FARMER, of a daughter.

Sept. 13, at Hartford Rectory, South Devon, the wife of the Rev. H. RUTHERFURD, of a son.

Sept. 13, at 119, Cannon street-road, E., the wife of the Rev. H. J. FRYE, of a daughter.

Sept. 13, at Mulroy, county Donegal, the Countess of LEITRIM, of a son.

Sept. 13, at the Vicarage, Norton, near Gloucester, the wife of the Rev. FRANCIS EDWARD BROOME WITTS, of a son.

Sept. 15, at 53, Eccleston-square, Lady LILY GREENE, of a daughter.

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MARRIAGES.

Sept. 8, at Lawton, the Rev. GEORGE W. SKENE, Rector of Barthomley, to MARY MAUD, daughter of the late Hon. E. M. Erskine, C.B., and widow of the late W. LAWTON, Esq., of Lawton Hall, Cheshire.

Sept. 8, at Newton St. Loe, Somerset, EDWIN JOHN MOORE, eldest son of the Rev. EDWIN LASCELLES, Rector of Newton St. Loe, to FRANCES ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of the late Captain THOMAS REYNOLDS GRIFFITH, of Pantgwyn, Cardiganshire.

Sept. 8, at All Saints', Clapham-park, the Rev. C. J. ORD to JANE HETTY, daughter of the late G. A. POLAND, of Florence Lodge, Streatham-hill, S.W.

Sept. 8, at Fawsley, Major STOPFORD HICKMAN, R.H.A., second son of the late Hugh Palliser Hickman, Esq., of Fenloe, county Clare, to MARY, youngest daughter of the late Rev. HENRY CHARLES KNIGHTLEY, Vicar of Combroke, Warwickshire.

Sept. 9, at the parish church, Market Harborough, the Rev. PHILIP STOCKS, M.A., Vicar of Great Bowden, Leicestershire, seventh son of Lumb Stocks, R.A., to EMILY FRANCES, eldest daughter of EDWARD KNAPP FISHER, of Hill Crest, Market Harborough.

Sept. 9, at the parish church of Crosthwaite, Keswick, the Rev. EDMUND PHIPPS STANLEY, Rector of Wootton Courtenay, Somersetshire, to CATHERINE STEWART BROWNE, eldest daughter of John Stewart Browne, Esq., of Port Lincoln, South Australia.

Sept. 9, at Little Whelnetham Church, near Bury St. Edmund's, MAUD MARY, eldest daughter of the late JOHN JOSSELYN, Esq., of St. Edmund's-hill, Bury St. Edmund's, to the Rev. HENRY TRIMMER OSBORNE, M.A., Vicar of Riseley, Bedfordshire.

Sept. 15, at St. Mary Abbott's, Kensington, CLEMENT A. R. BROWNE, R.E., eldest son of Colonel C. M. Browne, R.E., to JANE CECILIA, eldest daughter of the late Rev. HUGH CALLENDAR, Rector of Hatherton, Gloucestershire.

Sept. 15, at St. John the Baptist's, Bath, the Rev. CHARLES HANNIBAL CROSSLEY, of Bury St. Edmund's, to EMILY MARY BURRELL, widow of G. Burrell, Esq., and daughter of the late J. H. Bettington, Esq., of Bath.

Sept. 15, at St. Thomas's, Wincobank, the Rev. FREDERICK JOHN, third son of GEORGE LANSDELL, Esq., to ALICE, daughter of the late JAMES WILSON, Esq., Manchester.

Sept. 15, at St. George's, Semington, the Rev. STEPHEN MURRAY CHAPMAN, M.A., Curate of Semington, to MARY ELIZABETH, eldest daughter of the late Rev. HENRY OWEN CRAWLEY, M.A., and granddaughter of Major-General Henry Owen Crawley, R.E.

DEATHS.

Sept. 6, at Weston-super-Mare, EMMA, widow of the Rev. OSWALD JOHN HOWELL, late Chaplain Sussex County Hospital, and for many years Vicar of Thurmaston, Leicestershire, aged 78.

Sept. 9, at Birkenhead, ARABELLA, wife of the Rev. JAMES HAWORTH, Vicar of St. Michael's, Chester.

Sept. 10, at Bay Fort, Torquay, ELLEN SOPHIA, widow of the Rev. EDWIN E. COLERIDGE, late Vicar of Buckerell, aged 68.

Sept. 10, at 4, Lynedoch-place, Edinburgh, LUCRETIA, widow of the late Sir HENRY WELLWOOD MONCREIFF, Bart., D.D., and youngest daughter of the late Andrew Murray, Esq., of Murrays Hall, Perthshire.

Sept. 11 (her birthday), at Allonby Vicarage, HARRIET KATHERINE (HATTIE), eldest daughter of the Rev. W. A. Voss, aged 31 years.

Sept. 12, at Maesycrugiau Manor, Carmarthenshire (the residence of her mother), MAUD SARAH MARGARETTA BOWEN, Dame of Sir RICHARD MANSEL MANSEL, Bart., aged 24 years.

Sept. 13, suddenly, at Manlochy, near Inverness, General Sir ALFRED HASTINGS HORSFORD, G.C.B., Colonel-Commandant Rifle Brigade.

Sept. 13, at 42, Corrance-road, Clapham, ANNA MARIA, relict of the Rev. L. R. COGAN, Vicar of Whitley-cum-Limpley, Stoke, Wilts, aged 72.

FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

FRANCE.—The French Government have received a despatch from General de Courcy, dated Hué, Monday, stating that in compliance with the repeatedly expressed wish of the Royal Family of Annam and the Governing Council, and with the sanction of the French Government, Prince Chaul Mong, the adopted son of Tuduc, who is twenty-three years of age, was that day formally installed as King of Annam. The King in dignified terms expressed his attachment to France.

Mgr. Forcade, Archbishop of Aix, aged sixty-nine, died of cholera on Saturday. It is alleged that he caught the disease while visiting the sick in the hospitals. He is nearly the last victim, for all accounts from Marseilles and Toulon agree that the epidemic is rapidly disappearing. Mgr. Forcade, who was a man of considerable talent, attracted the notice of Pope Gregory when only thirty years of age, and was made Bishop of Samos *in partibus*, and Vicar Apostolic of Japan. M. Thiers in 1873 promoted him from the Bishopric of Nevers to the Archbishopric of Aix. He had a holy hatred of the Republic and of meddling in politics.

The floating laundries of the Seine, the appearance of which strikes Londoners on their first visit to Paris, are, it appears, not likely to be long in existence. The river is now more used for traffic than formerly (about 700,000 tons are loaded and unloaded on the banks in a year), and it is supposed that the *bateaux-lavoirs* restrict the waterway, which, after all, is not very wide. Besides, the *blanchisseuses* increase the difficulty of keeping the river clean, and the wooden structures interfere with the profits of the municipal washhouses. A commission has therefore been appointed to consider the advisability of the suppression of the floating *lavoirs*, the existence of which can be traced to the time of Henry IV.

The receipts from direct and indirect taxes during the month of August in France show a falling off in the revenue of 2,869,900f. as against the budget estimate, and a deficiency of 198,000f. as against the corresponding month of last year. The reductions are apparent in the stamp duties for 1,800,000f., and in indirect taxes for 1,600,000f., whilst Customs duties have fallen off nearly 1,000,000f. In other branches of the revenue, however, a surplus is noted. There was some variation in the deficiencies of the particular items of revenue for August, 1884, especially in stamp duty and postal service, which at that period were both in excess of the estimates. The total returns for the first eight months of the present year show a diminution of 17,585,600f. upon the general budget estimates, but an increase of 2,624,200f. compared with the same lapse of time in 1884.

The Conservative party have resolved to contest the thirty-eight seats for Paris and the Department of the Seine. The list of their candidates includes Paul de Cassagnac, Edouard Hervé, proprietor and editor of the *Soleil*; Ferdinand Duval, Prefect of the Seine under Marshal MacMahon's rule; Baron Haussmann, Raoul Duval, Duke de Bisaccia, Duke de Padoué, Minister of the Interior under the Empire some twenty-seven years ago; Paul Dalloz, proprietor of the *Moniteur*; and General de Barail, Minister of War under MacMahon.

ITALY.—The other night (writes a Naples correspondent), the inhabitants of Mugnano, a little town near Naples, were wakened by the furious ringing of the bell of the church of the Madonna delle Grazie, and on running thither found that the sanctuary of St. Filomena had been violated, and the figure robbed of all its garments, jewels, and votive offerings to the value of 50,000f. The little finger of the saint had been broken off for the sake of the rings, and the altar was all in disorder. As the church-doors were intact the sacristan, who had rung the alarm, was arrested. As a detachment of carabineers was patrolling the neighbourhood they saw a youth creeping along the ditch that bordered the road, who, on being ordered to stop, uttered a peculiar cry, let drop some object, and fled. The cry was followed by the sound of several persons rushing through the bushes. The night was so dark that the carabineers failed to overtake the thieves; but a sack was picked up and found to contain a great part of the jewels robbed. The population of Mugnano declare that St. Filomena appeared to the carabineers and showed them the boy hidden in the ditch, and this report of a miracle has daring the last few days attracted all the people of the neighbouring villages and a great many from Naples to Mugnano, where the church has been decorated and the figure of the saint newly dressed.

GERMANY.—The deliberations of the Berlin *Telegraph Conference*, which are now drawing to their close, have resulted in the adoption of a uniform European tariff, which will considerably reduce the cost of telegrams. A large proportion of the reduction falls on the cable companies. Owing to an unexpired contract, the reduction cannot be made yet for messages between England and Germany. The Egyptian delegate has secured a payment of £7,000 transit dues on telegrams passing through Egypt, by a threat to join the European system, which, it is said, would have caused one company a loss of £7,000 a year if carried out. On Wednesday the members of the conference dined with the German Postmaster-General, and on Thursday they broke up.

RUSSIA.—The indignation aroused in Russian Poland and Galicia by the continued expulsion of Poles from Prussia is said to increase rather than diminish, and the Polish newspapers are urging Polish employers to dismiss their German *employés* and to engage the expelled Poles in their stead. The advice is said to have been acted upon by several manufacturers of Warsaw.

AUSTRIA.—Austrian art has sustained a serious loss by the death of the eminent painter, Hans Canon, who died suddenly on Saturday of apoplexy. The deceased, who was born in Vienna in 1829, and was consequently 56 years of age, ranked very nearly as high as Hans Makart, and, indeed, since the death of the latter last autumn, Canon has been universally regarded as the foremost of Austrian artists. His social qualities were as great as his artistic, and he was as popular in the highest society of Vienna as he was among his brother artists all over the world. At the time of his death Canon—whose real name, by the way, was Johann von Straschiripka—was at work upon a monster canvas for the new museum, which was to have been the largest picture ever painted. Among the most notable of Canon's historical works is his "Cromwell before the Dead Body of Charles I.," while his "Modern Diogenes" and "Fisher Maidens" are among the best of his *genre* pictures. All subjects, however, were facile to him, and his portraits alone would have been sufficient to establish an enduring reputation.

DENMARK.—Rear-Admiral Suleiman Pasha on Tuesday presented to King Christian and the Crown Prince the Turkish decorations sent by the Sultan, together with an autograph letter from his Majesty. At the banquet subsequently given at the Castle the King proposed the health of the Sultan, to which Suleiman Pasha replied by a toast to the King's health. The Turkish Admiral was invested with the Grand Cross of the Danish Order of the Danebrog.

TURKEY.—In diplomatic circles at Constantinople it is stated that the Porte has already agreed upon certain proposals to be made to Sir H. D. Wolff concerning the reorganisation of the Egyptian Army and the control of Egyptian finance, whereby Turkish influence in both these matters would be increased. It is added that Musurus Pasha has been instructed to sound Lord Salisbury upon these proposals before they are formally communicated to Sir H. D. Wolff.

EGYPT.—A slight skirmish is reported to have taken place near Souakim between some rebel scouts and a picket of the Bengal cavalry. The rebels were driven off with a loss of four killed and wounded.

SPAIN.—In view of the present relations between Spain and Germany the military commandant of Guipuzcoa has received orders to push forward the fortification works for defending the port of Los Pasages. A chain of torpedoes will be placed out at sea before the harbour of St. Sebastian.

There is a report that the English Government has intimated that it adheres to the Note of 1875, disputing Spanish sovereignty in the Carolines. It seems possible, however, that an arrangement may be come to similar to that with regard to the Scoloo Islands, by which Germany and England would admit the Spanish sovereignty and be granted special commercial privileges in the islands. The German note has been published, and is unfavourably commented on by the Madrid press. Not only are telegrams subjected to censorship, but private letters have been opened in the post.

Yesterday week was the fifth birthday of the little Princess of the Asturias. The public buildings were draped with the national colours, and twenty-one guns were fired at daybreak. There was a brilliant reception at the palace, at which were present the members of the Diplomatic Corps, the Ministers of the Crown, the grandees of Spain, courtiers, nobles, generals, ladies, prelates, and politicians of all schools. The King, the Queen, and the Princesses received many congratulations on their return to Madrid, and many loyal wishes for the future happiness of Doña Mercedes de Asturias.

In the first ten days of September, ending at midnight on the 10th, 106 cases of cholera with 66 deaths occurred in Madrid, and 23,644 cases with 6,379 deaths in the rest of the kingdom. These figures show a remarkable decrease in the epidemic in every one of the 33 provinces where its existence is admitted in the cholera bulletins of the *Gazette*. The total number of cases of cholera since the beginning of the outbreak in May was, in Madrid, 1,570, with 998 deaths. In the rest of Spain 244,456 cases, with about 91,000 deaths. These totals are according to the official *Gazette*; but medical men say the real figures exceed these by some 20,000 cases and 5,000 deaths.

The following extract from a letter which has just been published in a Swiss paper, written by the wife of a Swiss merchant settled in Spain, besides giving a vivid idea of the condition of that unfortunate country, shows how much medical men and Government officers have to contend with in their efforts to combat the plague that is working such terrible havoc throughout the Peninsula. "The other day there died in a house not far from ours a widow, the mother of two daughters. She had been suffering a long time from an affection of the chest, and shortly before her death a doctor was called in, who prescribed medicine and gave such directions for her treatment as he thought necessary. This was on a Saturday night, and on the following morning the poor woman breathed her last. No sooner was this known than a rumour went about that the medicine prescribed by the doctor contained poison, and was given to the widow in order that she might appear to have died of cholera. The elder daughter ran into the street like a maniac, shrieking 'Scoundrel, scoundrel! where is the wretch who has poisoned my mother?' That was a terrible day for me, especially as Karl (the writer's husband) was not here. A great crowd gathered before the house of the dead and ours, calling for the judge, and threatening the doctor with death. Then the body was taken into the churchyard in order that it might be opened. Just think; some of the people (as was afterwards proved) killed a rabbit and said it had died after being given some of the physic prescribed for the widow. After the body was removed there came the judge, and also the druggist who had mixed the medicine, and to show how harmless it was, the druggist took at a draught all the physic left in the bottle. The doctor also testified that it contained nothing whatever of a hurtful nature, and was really no more than a refreshing drink. When the widow's body was opened, moreover, it presented no choleraic symptoms whatever, but the lungs were very much diseased, and the cause of death was proved beyond dispute to be consumption. The excitement and uproar were, however, something terrible, particularly among the lower orders; they persisted in believing that the woman had been poisoned, and paraded the streets, declaring that they would force all the doctors to drink their own physic; and most of the patients of Dr. Antonio Espinosa (who prescribed for the widow) have thrown his medicine away, and he is bringing an action against the daughters for defamation of character. In the meanwhile the authorities have recommended the doctors to prescribe only pills, the popular belief being that pills cannot be poisoned. This will give you some idea of what the people here are like."

AMERICA.—Owing to a strike of the men employed in the coal mines at Rock Springs, Wyoming Territory, the property of the Union Pacific Railway Company, a number of Chinamen were imported to take the place of the white miners. The latter thereupon formed an armed organisation, and on the 29th ult. 150 of them visited the Chinese settlement, and ordered the Chinamen to leave. The terrified Chinese fled to the hills, pursued by the whites, who fired several volleys after them. The Chinese quarter was then burnt, and the entire mining camp was afterwards blown up. More than 500 Chinamen were driven from the town and 100 houses were burnt. The Governor of Wyoming has arrived at Rock Springs with the railway officials, and no further outbreak is expected to occur. Eye-witnesses describe the attack as a massacre, the Chinese having been quite defenceless. The most recent reports state that fifty Chinamen were killed, and that several corpses were burnt. The United States troops have been called out to preserve order by General Warren, and a large force concentrated at Evanston, to which place the railway company has taken all its Chinese labourers. The Sheriff has arrested fifteen of the rioters on a charge of murder and arson.

Information has been received to the effect that the elephant Jumbo, the great friend of all British children, and the favourite of two continents, has come to a painful end in a railway accident. This famous elephant, it appears, was upon a round of travel in Canada, and had reached the station of St. Thomas, Ontario, when some mistake in the signals brought a goods train upon the line where Jumbo's van was standing, with the result of hurling the amiable monster along the track and inflicting such frightful injuries upon him that the hapless animal died shortly after the occurrence.

BURMAH.—A correspondent in Rangoon writes under date September 9:—"Soopayalat, Theebaw's Queen, has been seriously ill with dysentery. The native doctors were consulted, but were not allowed to see her, and were obliged to prescribe on the reports received from the maids of honour. The Queen, having become worse, an Italian physician resident in Mandalay was called in. He also was unable to see Soopayalat, but ascertained her condition through his wife, who speaks Burmese, and who was allowed access to the patient. The Queen is now better. Her death would have an important effect on Burmese politics, as she keeps the King in complete subjection, and has been his evil genius. She was one of the principal authors of the Mandalay massacres of 1879." An important discovery has lately been made. The importation of arms and ammunition into Burma through British territory is forbidden by treaty. A large number of cases, supposed to contain macaroni, were forwarded through Rangoon, consigned to an Italian at Mandalay. Some of these were accidentally examined at Thayetmoo, the frontier station, and found to contain rifle cartridges. An inquiry established the fact that a considerable number of packages which had been sent to Mandalay described as containing iron gates and pianos really contained unbored rifle barrels, which could be finished at Mandalay. A most rigid supervision is now exercised over all goods for Mandalay.

INDIA.—The Calcutta correspondent of the *Times* reports that most distressing accounts continue to be received of the destruction wrought by the floods throughout a great portion of Lower Bengal. Baboo Joykissen Mookerjee, one of the largest landowners in the province, writes to a local newspaper that a great portion of the districts of Burdwan and Hooghly, almost all the cultivable land in the Howrah district, the sub-division of Ghattal, and a large part of the Midnapore district have been more than a fortnight under water, that the rice-crop is entirely destroyed, that the jute and sugar-cane crops are greatly damaged, and that many thousands of ryots have been rendered houseless and destitute. The central and eastern districts have hardly fared better. Whole tracts have been under water for days; and not only have the crops been ruined or seriously injured, but the mud-built homesteads of the ryots have positively melted away. A considerable portion of the Eastern Bengal Railway has been carried away, and the Central Bengal line has also suffered. The East Indian Railway has been breached in one or two places. The official reports in the last *Gazette* tell almost the same tale from every district. There was not much rain last week, and although showers fell on Tuesday, it is hoped that there may be a break of some duration. The water is beginning to subside in most places. It is possible that the inundation may not be after all an unmixed evil, as the winter crop will probably be a very good one, and tanks that have not been filled for years have been thoroughly replenished. There will, however, be a great amount of immediate distress. Appeals are already being made to public charity, and liberal donations are flowing in; but it is probable that private efforts will not suffice, and that Government aid will be required. Two stations not far from Calcutta have already registered over thirty inches in excess of the annual average of rainfall.

AFGHANISTAN.—The *Standard* says that it is in a position to state that the protocol signed on the 10th inst. between England and Russia leaves no point of principle to be determined between the representatives of the two Powers who are charged with the duty of laying down on the spot the precise line of demarcation. Every difficulty that has been raised on one side or the other has been met and settled; it has not been postponed. Every salient feature has been specifically laid down, and it will remain for the Joint Commission only to apply, with due regard to local necessities, the scheme of delimitation that has already been worked out on paper. It is hardly possible that any nice points can arise with reference to the portion of the line lying between the Heri Rood and the Murghab. The country was thoroughly surveyed during the winter and spring by the officers of Sir Peter Lumsden's mission, and the delay in settling the difference with regard to Zulfikar was due to the alleged desire of the St. Petersburg Cabinet to obtain a precise topographical report from their own surveyors. The diplomatists who have been engaged in the long controversy have, we need hardly remark, been in constant communication with the experts, and have, in fact, acted to a very large extent at their instance. The protracted negotiations have dealt exclusively with the disputed zone lying between the Heri Rood on the west and the Murghab on the east, and the fact that they have been protracted implies that the subject, in its local aspects, has been jealously considered and exhaustively discussed. The line from the Murghab eastwards to the Oxus has not hitherto been in question. It is included in the settlement, but it had not been an object of serious dispute. Unlike the western section, it has not been thoroughly surveyed. Our officers pushed along the tract to the Oxus, but their observations were not minute. Here then, if anywhere, occasions of difference may arise. There are no natural features to serve as fixed intermediate points. Goodwill may be presumed on both sides; but in any case the work of the Joint Commission will be more arduous here than in the quarter which has given diplomacy so much to do.

Sir Joseph Ridgway will be at the head of the English Mission. Colonel Kohlberg, the chief of the Russian Mission, will be accompanied by M. Lessar. The Commission is to meet at Zulfikar within two months of the date on which the protocol was signed, and no doubt operations will begin at once from that point. The work of delimitation will not, it is estimated, be brought to a close before August, 1886; and it is probable that the representatives of both Powers will winter at Penjdeh. The *Standard* continues:—"It remains only to indicate the line defined, with more or less precision, in the protocol. It starts from a point on the Heri Rood, about two miles to the north of Zulfikar, and runs almost due east for about five miles. It then trends to the south-east, and then, leaving Ak Robat to the north, reaches the Dahna Ishin (the most western affluent of the Kushk) at Ishin. It follows roughly the southern course of that stream to a point about seven miles south of Kala-i-Waur, and then passes to the Murghab, a little north of Meruchak, leaving the whole Penjdeh peninsula to Russia. At Meruchak begins the less known and less contested portion of the boundary. Speaking generally, the line runs along the western bank of the Audkhui River till, finally, the Oxus is reached at Khoja Saleh. Thus the desert on the west would be left for the wanderings of the Russian Turkomans, and the settled tracts of Afghan-Turkestan reserved in their integrity for the Ameer. The ordinary English reader will derive little edification from this outline. He will prefer to hear, roughly, how far the Russian Government have carried their points since the dispute was first opened. It may be said at once that the conventional boundary is far to the north of that fancifully assumed in the Russian staff map of 1884. But, on the other hand, it coincides to a great extent with that proposed by M. Lessar, on which the St. Petersburg politicians have made their stand. We have, to be sure, secured Meruchak for the Afghans; but then we have had to resign all the rest of the oasis of Penjdeh and the important position of Ak Tepe at the junction of the streams. In the Zulfikar question (to which the dispute was at last whittled down) we have got almost all we insisted on getting. The Czar has been advised by his surveyors that to give up the portions of the hills in the neighbourhood of the pass which, from our point of view, were essential to the effectual strategic use of the position, was quite compatible with the security of the Russian communications. As the Russian press, in this country and elsewhere, had been instructed to insist that any concession was impossible, English diplomacy may be credited with a triumph; but it is a trifling one. We have saved Zulfikar, but have had to give up Pul-i-Khatun, Ak Robat, and Penjdeh."

A despatch from Capetown, dated August 26, states that the troops in Bechuanaland were moving down to Cape Colony, and being replaced by Carrington's Police. Methuen's Horse were expected to leave for England early this month. Mr. Justice Shippard has been offered and has accepted the administratorship of Bechuanaland, which is to be constituted a Crown Colony entirely separate from the Cape.

The State Library at Monaco is being catalogued. Among its contents have been found about 20,000 letters from persons who have filled most important positions in French political or literary history, such as Catherine de Medicis, Richelieu, Mazarin, Louvois, Colbert, and Montaigne.

The *Kavkas* publishes the following account of the destruction of a band of brigands on the Persian frontier:—"During the night of the 13th of August a band of brigands committed several acts of pillage in the district of Djebrail, near the borders of Persia. The celebrated brigand chief Taugri Verdy Allah Kuli Ogly was at their head. They attempted to gain a place of shelter on Persian territory; but the frontier guards pursued them so closely that they were compelled to flee for safety to the desert encampment of Abdur Rahman Bekly. The timely arrival of a Cossack reinforcement enabled the authorities to surround this position, when it was attacked and carried by assault. The chief was killed, with many of his followers, in the *mêlée*, and the survivors were captured. Thus it may be accurately said that the formidable band of Taugri Verdy Allah Kuli Ogly has been annihilated."

The Grand Jubilæum of the 500th anniversary of the University of Heidelberg, it has been decided, will be held during the second week of August of next year (1886). The programme of the festivities is as follows:—On Monday, the eve of the festival, the guests will be welcomed in the Grand Festival Hall, and there will be a meeting of the foreign deputations under the presidency of the pro-rector. Tuesday, a solemn religious service, official speeches in the *aula* of the University, and in the evening a special festival at the Castle. Wednesday, a grand procession to the Heiligengeist Church, where the pro-rector will pronounce the chief discourse of the festival; a great banquet in the museum; in the evening a torchlight procession. Thursday, ceremonies of taking honourable degrees. Friday, an historical procession during the day, and a general festival-commers (students' meeting) in the evening. The historical procession will consist of several groups from the time of the foundation of the University down to the present period, clad in the appropriate costumes, and generally personified by the students. The buildings of the University, the town house, and the Heiligengeist Church will be renovated for the occasion. A new festival hall, 360ft.

long by 126ft. wide, and holding 5,000 persons, is also to be erected for the festivities.

The *Echo de Perse*, published at Teheran, states that "a great part of the town of Resht, one of the principal cities of Persia, and situated on the southern shore of the Caspian, offers at this moment the melancholy spectacle of a mass of cinders. In a few hours the flames destroyed the fourth part of this still exceedingly flourishing town. About midnight on the 20th of July, when the inhabitants were all asleep, a fire broke out in a shop and speedily caught the neighbouring shops. Before the least effort could be made to put out the fire ten shops were ablaze. Unfortunately, a strong breeze blowing from the sea assisted the conflagration, and in an incredibly short space of time one-fourth of the town resembled a furnace. The Vice-Governor of the province, Mushir ul Sultaneh, spared no effort to arrest the work of destruction by personally directing and encouraging those who endeavoured to put out the flames; but no success attended these laudable exertions. The fire was not over till late in the afternoon of the following day, and then only through having exhausted its own force. The open space surrounding the Armenian Church is said to have been the means of saving the rest of the town. Seven hundred and fifty shops and several caravanserais were destroyed during the conflagration. Its destructiveness is reasonably attributed to the fact that the town is built chiefly of wood. The Shah, on hearing of the catastrophe, at once sent off supplies of provisions and clothes from Teheran. Resht is the principal depôt of the trade between Persia and Russia, and its trade is exceedingly brisk. According to the official figures, Russia imported through Enzeli, which is the port of Resht, 1,697,214 roubles of merchandise in 1884, as against 1,486,445 roubles in 1883. The exports from that port were, in 1884, about two million roubles. The import of sugar alone was valued at 375,000 roubles. The establishment of the fair at Baku and the construction of a good carriage road between Resht and Teheran will increase still further the commercial prosperity of Resht."

IRELAND.

Archbishop Walsh, replying to an address from the Catholic Club in Dublin on Tuesdayafternoon, referred to the deficient representation of Catholics on public bodies and to the policy of the present Government. He acknowledged the courageous course of the new Viceroy, Lord Carnarvon, in undertaking an inquiry into the Maamtrasna and other murder trials. He hoped it was but the first step towards a great act, not of mercy only, but of justice. He tendered to the Viceroy an expression of his sympathy with him as a public man in the storm of bitter language with which he had been assailed. He protested against the language of those who by opposing the Viceroy in his decision would drag into the area of party strife the sacred names of order and law. So far from weakening the respect of the Irish people for the law, there was no act that would more surely strengthen it than a bold, courageous act of justice by the Government, bringing home to the minds of all men the conviction that in the eyes of the law and of those who have the great responsibility of enforcing it the life of the poorest and humblest peasant in Connemara is as sacred in its sight as the life of the highest noble in the land.

It is a little more than a century and a half since Bishop Berkeley was appointed to the See of Cloyne, and at last a monument is to be erected to his memory. It will be set up in the course of the present month in the Cathedral in which he often officiated, and if the recognition is tardy, at least the homage comes from a wide area. Much of the money is subscribed from America and some of it from England. It is curious (writes a correspondent to a contemporary, dating his letter from Cloyne) how few and faint are the traditions of the old Bishop to be found upon the spot. Born in Kilkenny and educated at the school there, a graduate of Trinity College, of which he was ultimately a Fellow, Berkeley was an Irish prelate at a time when Irish Sees were often filled by English clergy. He was a patriot, too, and a protectionist, desiring always to encourage native and local industry, so that he made a point of ordering his clothes and even his wigs from the tradesmen of the city of Cloyne. The See was joined with that of Cork and Ross in the year 1835, and the Bishop's palace is now let to a gentleman farmer. But still there remain traces of the old occupancy. A clergyman in those days not unfrequently mingled a little knowledge of medicine with a little knowledge of theology—the Herbal lay on the shelf with the Concordance. It is reported of the Bishop that he had an extraordinary faith in the efficacy of tar water. They point out in the grounds of the palace some remaining shrubs—a row of myrtles—of his planting, the roots of which he carefully tarred before the clay was shovelled over them. For twenty years he held the See of Cloyne, and when he left for England in 1752 there is contemporary record that "his neighbours and the country folk, with sorrow in their hearts, accompanied him to the ship and watched its white sails as they disappeared behind the rising shores of Spike."

Sixty-four farmers and labourers were last week charged at Waterford before a full bench of magistrates with participation in a riot at Mullfavat on the 27th of August, on the occasion of an attempted eviction. Evidence as to the stoning of the police and other incidents of the riot was given, after which Mr. Leamy, M.P., and Mr. T. Davin addressed the magistrates on behalf of the accused. The Court sentenced Richard Forreshall to four months' imprisonment, John Fitzpatrick and Thomas Walsh to one month, and Patrick Dudy and Thomas Thompson to a fortnight's imprisonment for assaulting the police; and Thomas Forreshall to imprisonment for seven days for aiding and abetting in the riot. Mr. Coll, who prosecuted on behalf of the Crown, withdrew the other summonses, remarking that the Government was not desirous of sending people to gaol, but at the same time was determined that law and order should be maintained.

It was announced on Saturday, at a special meeting of the Munster Bank shareholders, that in the absence of either directorate or prospectus £300,000 of new capital had been subscribed. The Reconstruction Committee had entrusted to Messrs. Vincent Scully and James Murphy, who consented to act as directors, the task of selecting their colleagues and issuing a prospectus. A large number of shares had already been guaranteed, and a speedy opening of the new bank was promised.

Speaking at Killarney on Tuesday night, to the members of the Young Ireland Society, Mr. Healy, M.P., said that whilst the Irish Nationalist party not only commanded, but sought, honest criticism, yet he deprecated the carping fault-finding of persons who had no object in their criticism beyond the acquiring of cheap fame at the expense of honester men and purer patriots than themselves. He denounced outrages and excesses of all kinds, and pointed out that the horrors of the French Revolution at the close of the last century led to the firmer fastening of the yoke of despotism upon the nation. He fondly hoped that the next would be the last "general election" required in Ireland; but, no matter how many years might elapse before the cause of Irish nationality was gained, the people should not cease to struggle for it. The Irish party, while they remained in the Imperial House of Parliament, which they despised and detested, would have to play off one of the great English parties against the other.

Mr. William Redmond, M.P., speaking at a Nationalist meeting in Derry on Saturday, said:—"We are determined to win self-government, for in that alone do we see any hope of salvation. Eighty-five years of British rule have swept away more than half of our population, and now it is the duty of Irishmen to see if we cannot keep our people at home by a native Government, which will protect and defend the interests of all men, irrespective of creed or class. Mr. Chamberlain says we are not to get a Parliament, and he, putting all question of right or argument upon one side, gives as his reason for our not getting our Parliament that we are only 4,000,000 of people against 32,000,000 in Britain. This, the reason of the bully and the coward, comes well indeed from the lips of the great 'Radical,' who stretched his 'Radicalism' to vote for coercion for Irishmen and the bayonet for the poor Arabs. They are only '4,000,000,' cries the British statesman. This is the fond delusion long cherished in the soul of many a shallow-brained British driveller. Would not they like us to be only '4,000,000?' How they would throttle the life of us! They would carry out the suggestion of the London *Times*, and make 'a Celt as rare in Ireland as a red Indian on the shores of Manhattan.' But from those very Manhattan shores, from glorious America, there are fifteen million hearts beating for Ireland, and even from Australia, too, and they will thunder back the answer of exiled Ireland to Mr. Chamberlain's challenge; and I think he will soon learn that there is a slight arithmetical mistake in putting us down at 'four millions.' We need care little for what Mr. Chamberlain, or any English politician, says. We will leave Mr. Parnell to answer all in the next Parliament, and let us send ninety men to chorus the defiance which our leader will hurl back to those who insult the Irish people. Our course now is clear. All our strength must be centred on the election; all support must be given to Mr. Parnell. Union, steadiness, and perseverance will ensure success; and think what success means. Think of the pride, the glory, and the joy of placing the crown of liberty on our country's brow. Think of the day, please God at hand, when the work of generations will be completed, when the blood of our martyrs will bear fruit, and when the rafters that rang to Grattan's voice will again be wakened into echoing the tones of men who love liberty."

Speaking at a meeting at Millstreet, county Cork, on Sunday, Mr. John O'Connor, M.P., deprecated in very strong terms the commission of outrages. He said that hitherto they could scarcely bring themselves to denounce anything which tended to put the Government to a little trouble; but he now exhorted them to put a stop to such matters in future, especially when they had the law almost in their own hands, and when it would soon be transferred from the police-court to the National League Court. He was sorry to observe that, although Millstreet was foremost in popular movements, their energies were often directed into wrong channels, and he hoped they would no more give any handle to their oppressors to come down on them or obstruct them in the achievement of their burning desire for a native Parliament. In conclusion, he would ask them to be united on the eve of a general election, the results of which would be of momentous consequence to the Irish people; and he would further ask them not to rely on the words "never" and "impossible" which were lately preached by English statesmen.

In an article headed "Can We Hurt England?" *United Ireland*, Mr. Parnell's paper, deals with Mr. Chamberlain's recent figures, and sets forth the injury the 4,000,000 of Irish people can do the other 34,000,000 of people in the United Kingdom. It mentions what it terms matter-of-fact eventualities that everybody who thinks that the Irish 4,000,000 can but grind their teeth, however the 34,000,000 millions may choose to hector them, would do well not to everlook. There is, it says, the possibility of a great national boycotting decree against English commercial travellers, the boycotting of every English official, soldier, and policeman in Ireland, the boycotting, if need be, of every steamship or cockboat carrying on intercourse between the two islands. For while all these things would involve a great deal of red ruin and the breaking up of laws, would anybody say that they are beyond the power of a people ready to face any sea of weltering troubles provided that Mr. Chamberlain shows them that English domination in Ireland cannot otherwise be overthrown? It exhorts Mr. Chamberlain to moderate the rancour of his tongue.

A Dublin correspondent states that on Monday the following appeared in a Dublin paper:—"Cats.—Immediate.—A gentleman returning to Auckland, commissioned to import a number of cats, offers 2s. for grown cats and 1s. for kittens; to be brought in small baskets, which will be allowed for, to booking office, Carlisle Pier, between 6.30 and 7 o'clock p.m. this day. Inquire for Mr. Weston." Between five and six o'clock on Monday evening about 150 people congregated on Carlisle Pier, Kingstown. They included women and girls and boys, carrying hampers, creels, and hat boxes, in each of which was a cat or a couple, or even a whole litter. After a long delay inquiries were made, but, to the great dismay of the owners, no tidings were to be had of the advertiser, and at the ticket office and on board the mail steamer they were informed that no such person had been booked. The unfortunate vendors of cats had consequently to return home without disposing of their pets.

On Saturday the Lord Lieutenant and the Countess of Carnarvon left Downhill, the residence of Sir Henry Bruce, for Baronscourt, the seat of the Duke of Abercorn. At Londonderry, addresses were presented from the Mayor, corporation, and burgesses, and the professors of the Magee College. He was also entertained at luncheon. In the course of his response to the toast of his health, the Earl of Carnarvon said he had not failed to notice the very vigorous, intelligent, industrial life that was there to be found. There were memories of many kinds associated with the place. Some might awaken bitterness and party strife, some were of a different nature; but in the past annals of Derry—in the annals of its heroic defence—he did not see any incentive to bitterness or party strife. He believed that the element of discord was passing away, and every generous man, no matter what his creed, might look with sympathy to the records of that great struggle of Derry. Whilst he rejoiced that party spirit was somewhat diminished, he hoped and trusted that the remembrance of the great contest would never pass away. Lord and Lady Carnarvon, with the Duke and Duchess of Abercorn and party, attended service on Sunday in the church at Baronscourt, the Bishop of Derry preaching on Socialism.

The Earl and Countess of Carnarvon arrived at Dungannon from Baronscourt on Monday afternoon, and were warmly cheered as the train stopped. Mr. Samuel Young greeted their Excellencies on behalf of the Town Commissioners, in the absence of the chairman, Lord Ranfurly, who is in America. In responding Lord Carnarvon thanked Mr. Young for his expression of loyalty and kindly reference to Lady Carnarvon. His Excellency made inquiries about the condition of the crops in the district. The Lord Lieutenant and Countess were again cheered as the train moved away.

Lord Carnarvon received at Hillsborough Castle on Tuesday two farmers' deputations—one from the tenants of Hillsborough and the adjoining districts, and another from the Grand Lodge of the Freemasons of Down. In replying to the address presented to him, the Lord-Lieutenant referred to the condition of agriculture and its importance to Ireland. He said he was struck by the signs of good cultivation and clean husbandry, and everything that makes satisfactory agriculture, which he saw in the district. There were signs of good and satisfactory farming on every side; and in all the parts of England he knew he never saw anything better and more satisfactory. A Masonic address was then presented, and briefly acknowledged.

The Earl of Carnarvon, who was accompanied by the Countess, visited Armagh on Wednesday, and was presented with an address by the Town Commissioners. In reply, the Viceroy said he trusted that quieter and happier times were in store for Ireland. He afterwards visited the Roman Catholic Cathedral, where he was welcomed by Dr. M'Gettigan, Roman Catholic Primate of All Ireland. The Earl and Countess returned to Dublin on the same evening.

POLITICAL AND PERSONAL.

The following are the results of the decisions of the Revising Barrister in the borough of Marylebone. It will be seen that the Conservatives have succeeded in reducing the Liberal list by nearly 2,000 votes. The Liberals took no part either in defence or criticism:—

East.		
Overseers' list and house claims ...	6616	
Struck off	620	
		5996
New and old lodgers	1118	
Struck off	138	
		980
		6976
West.		
Overseers' list and house claims ...	7846	
Struck off	1024	
		6822
New and old lodgers	957	
Struck off	112	
		845
		7667

Baron de Worms, M.P., addressed a meeting of his supporters at Greenwich on Monday night, and announced his retirement from the candidature in order to avoid splitting the Conservative vote. Resolutions were passed accepting the Baron's resignation with great regret, and calling upon Mr. Boord, M.P., also to retire in order that another candidate may be found who would unite the party. It was stated that Baron de Worms will contest one of the divisions of Liverpool.

Mr. James Lowther, M.P., speaking at Marske on Saturday, said the one thing which above all others was required for the restoration of prosperity to this country was confidence. The greatest enemy to trade was he who sought to take confidence from the country. The crude schemes of communism and robbery which were propounded by Mr. Jesse Collings and others would do far more, with that radical foreign competition which they had forced upon us, to retard the prosperity of this country than anything they could conceive. He had always been under the impression up to within the last few months that the Liberal Party held office by the doctrines propounded by Bentham, Adam Smith, and John Stuart Mill. What would any of these great political thinkers have said if the State had had to embark in trade and subsidise one particular trade for the benefit of particular persons, to the disadvantage of the general community? He, for one, would be ashamed to go before the country and ask for a pledge of that kind. He advocated fair play and fair trade to all industries, and did not want to tax the miner for the benefit of the agriculturist.

Colonel F. Duncan, C.B., the Conservative candidate for the new borough of Holborn, addressed a large number of the electors at Neumeyer Hall, Bloomsbury, on Monday night, and had a very cordial reception. This was the first occasion on which the gallant officer has addressed a public meeting since his two years' absence on active service in the Soudan. He paid a well-merited tribute to the humanity and courage of General Gordon, with whom he had been brought in direct contact, and referred to questions of foreign policy, commercial markets, and the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church of England, which he strongly opposed, and in the end received a hearty vote of thanks and assurances of support.

Lord Harris, Under-Secretary of State for India, presided on Monday night over a crowded and enthusiastic meeting at the Parochial Hall, Ferndale-road, Brixton, called by the Brixton Conservative Association, in support of the candidature of Mr. Ernest Baggallay for the Brixton Division of Lambeth. His Lordship, after some preliminary remarks, observed that they would have to choose at the next election between a Radical Government that had been in power for five years and a Constitutional Government that had been in power for two months. They had to compare the performances of that Radical Government in five years with those of the Constitutional one in two months, and he thought that if they went carefully through not only what had passed, but looked as far as they could into the future, they would agree with him that on the whole it would be safer to place that future in the hands of the Conservative party. Let them look into the past. It was a difficult matter to do so if they took up a Radical speech, for the obvious reason that the Radicals were by no means inclined to go into the past very closely. They did not show an inclination to go into foreign affairs, and even when they alluded to the question they touched it very tenderly. Mr. Chamberlain touched upon it the other day at Warrington, but he thought they would agree with him that he put his foot out very gingerly, and seemed afraid that the ice would break from under him. Mr. Chamberlain took up a most extraordinary line of argument—that the Constitutional Government now in power followed upon the lines set them by the preceding Radical Government. Well, all he (Lord Harris) could say was this—God forbid that any Government should follow upon the lines of that most iniquitous foreign policy which was identified with the late Government. Mr. Chamberlain tried to make capital out of the agreement which had been come to between the British Government and the Russian Government with respect to the Afghan frontier. He was prepared to admit that Lord Salisbury had been compelled to proceed to some extent upon the lines laid down by his predecessors; but if the Radicals thought that the agreement was the very best one that could have been arrived at in the interests of the Ameer of Afghanistan, they were very much mistaken. He believed that it was perfectly possible that with firmness and decision a much better line, and one far more satisfactory to the Ameer, could have been agreed upon. He felt sure that when the time came it would be found that the Tory programme was much more attractive than Mr. Gladstone's umbrella.

Mr. Edward Jenkins, who represented Dundee as a Radical from 1874 to 1880, was advertised to deliver a lecture at Dundee on Thursday night on "Politics, Present and Future," for the National Union of Conservative Associations for Scotland, and about 4,000 men assembled in the Drill-hall to hear him. Provost Bellingall presided. The appearance of Mr. Jenkins was the signal for a perfect uproar. Howls, cheers, hisses, and singing were begun and continued, and not a single connected sentence of either the Provost or Mr. Jenkins could be heard. The Provost in the midst of the turmoil stood on a table, and was understood to say that he was ashamed of the meeting, and that he would resign; while Mr. Jenkins shouted that they would hear him yet. The noise and disturbance continued, and a chorus was got up and sang lustily, "Wait till the clouds roll by" and other songs, mingled with howls and hisses for the "turncoat member." The meeting was brought to an abrupt close before nine o'clock. A more uproarious and disorderly meeting has not been seen in Dundee for many years.

Mr. T. E. Smith, M.P. for Tynemouth, addressed a crowded meeting of the electors at North Shields on Tuesday night. The executive of the Liberal Association having passed a resolution condemning Mr. Smith's action in supporting Sir M. Hicks-Beach's motion of want of confidence in the late Government on the Egyptian question, none of the members of the association were on the platform. In the course of his address Mr. Smith said he was a member for the borough before the Liberal Association existed, and he was resolved not to obey the behests of any association. There was a certain number of individuals who thought the position of a member of Parliament was to go to the House of Commons, and not to exercise his judgment in any degree. If such were the opinion of the constituency, let them hire a delegate and pay him a salary, and if he voted contrary to their wishes, let them stop supplies. For himself, he emphatically refused to be a delegate. If he were elected it would be by the voice of the people, and not under the dominion of any association. Mr. Smith was frequently loudly applauded.

Lord Carlingford, speaking at a Liberal meeting at Clevedon on Tuesday evening, said the political history of the country since the passing of the Reform Bill in 1832 had chiefly consisted of the great legislative measures passed by the Liberal party, and he believed that the extension of household suffrage to town and country alike would infuse new life and new force into the Liberal party and into the cause of reform. Among the great legislative measures now to be dealt with the more prominent were the great questions of land law reform and the reform of our system of local government. He believed it to be utterly impossible for the Tory party to deal effectively with these questions. The Agricultural Holdings Act, passed by the Conservatives, was a sort of test of the spirit in which the Conservative party dealt with such a question as that of the land. That Act allowed the landlord to write a note to his tenant saying that he did not desire the statute to apply to himself, and so make the Act a dead letter. The question of land reform was one of the most vital with which Parliament could possibly deal, and at this particular moment, with the great depression of agricultural interests, it was more important and more vital than ever.

Both ownership and tenancy required new life to be put into their veins, and he hoped that the Liberal party would be able to do something towards that great object. The reform of local government was a very wide, a very deep, and a very far-reaching question. It included the question of the reform of the licensing laws, the relief of Parliament from many of the labours which now oppressed it, and it touched the life of all our communities, both rural and urban, at a vital point. That was a subject which he hoped they would not allow the Conservative party to deal with. The Conservative party was not free to deal thoroughly and boldly with such a question as that. Moreover, he did not trust the Tory party on the subject of legislation for Ireland. Hitherto their policy had been a policy of mere negation, of a dogged attempt to maintain the false, old, unnatural, and impossible system in Ireland. It had been the policy which opposed everyone of the great Irish measures of Mr. Gladstone, which denounced that thoroughly true maxim of Mr. Bright that in Ireland force was no remedy. In fact, it was a policy of force without remedy, of coercion without reform. The attitude of the Conservative party at the present moment towards Ireland—towards the Irish Nationalists—was very absurd, and not creditable. But it could not last many weeks. It was a policy of silence in the face of what Mr. Chamberlain called a proposal to set up a foreign nation at our doors. The right policy in Irish matters was simply that we should legislate for Ireland as Parliament legislated for Scotland, in accordance with the opinions and feelings of the Irish people and of their chosen representatives, and that we should so legislate, courageously, unflinchingly, and in spite of our own prejudices and prepossessions, even in cases where we might think that they were wrong and we were right, so long as the United Kingdom and the just claims of classes in Ireland were not sacrificed.

At the annual meeting of the Woodstock Agricultural and Horticultural Association, held on Wednesday, the Duke of MARLBOROUGH, president of the society, said he ventured to think there had been more nonsense spoken by Mr. Chamberlain on the land question than by any Liberal member in the House of Commons. He would like to enumerate to them one or two of the important questions which he believed to be involved in the problem connected with the land. He thought one of the most important of all was the question of its transfer, and when all these diatribes were delivered against the landlord class he thought what was overlooked was the great influence of the legal profession in holding in a vice this trade in the country. Until they had a simple system of transfer of land it was perfectly useless to talk as to how they were going to divide it. They might be certain of one thing, and that was, the small cultivator of the future, this creation of Mr. Chamberlain, would not be prepared to pay the enormous costs of transfer nor to submit to the enormous delays which were at present placed upon that transaction by the legal profession. It appeared to him from his small experience that if the labourers had five acres of land apiece they would not know what to do with it. It was quite a different thing when they had to do with small accommodation plots in the neighbourhood of towns. There they might have small holdings, and then under a proper system of land tenure supply would be met by demand and demand by supply, but they could never create a mass of small holders of five acres out in the wilds of Oxfordshire and the hills of Wiltshire in the same way that they could create small peasant proprietors in a vine-growing country like France. The climate of England was not suitable to it, and would not admit of it, and they were aware that there was a certain modicum of land below which it was perfectly useless to attempt to farm with a profit. He was no more afraid of the word Socialism than was Mr. Chamberlain. The speeches delivered by some of the most responsible people on the Radical side, and notably by Mr. Chamberlain, were of such a character that it was perfectly impossible to look upon them as anything more or less than a dishonest bribe to the new electorate. He did not make the statement because he felt in any way enthusiastic about the programme of their Conservative friends. He thought Mr. Chamberlain had put their Whig friends in such a position that they would be obliged to choose between the devil and the deep sea, and they would be obliged to perform some such move as his distinguished brother invited Lord Hartington to make the other day, or they would be obliged to make themselves the ladder by which Mr. Chamberlain and his friends would succeed in obtaining sovereign power. He did not think that that was a function that any man would wish to perform. If Mr. Chamberlain was going to succeed in carrying the new electorate with him he had better succeed on his own platform and alone. He (the Duke of Marlborough) should be extremely sorry to see distinguished members of the Whig profession instruments by which Mr. Chamberlain was able to obtain his object. He therefore thought there was a time coming when many of their friends of the Liberal persuasion would have to choose between Mr. Chamberlain and the Radical party, and the party of the Empire.

The Marquis of RIPON was entertained on Tuesday at a banquet by the St. Helen's Liberal Association, and met with a cordial reception. He said that from the commencement of his Viceroyalty he had aimed at the happiness and prosperity of India. He had earnestly endeavoured to cement a sincere and firm alliance between the British Government and the Ameer of Afghanistan, in whom we now had an ally whose attachment and good faith could not be questioned. The alliance would be of immense value if we were called upon to encounter difficulties on the North-western frontier. He knew that they would share his satisfaction at the settlement of the Zulficar Pass difficulty. Those difficulties were in a fair way of settlement when Mr. Gladstone left office, and Lord Salisbury had conducted the negotiations on the same lines as his predecessors in office. They must give to the Liberal Government the credit which was due to them, and also credit to Lord Salisbury's Government for having followed the same policy. By this happy termination there was removed any sort of justification for hasty or extravagant action on the part either of the Home or Indian Governments. His Lordship concluded by expressing the opinion that the general election would result in another great Liberal triumph.

Speaking at a meeting in South Hackney on Wednesday evening in support of the candidature of Mr. Charles Russell, Q.C., M.P., Mr. JOHN MORLEY said one of the difficulties which the new Parliament would have to encounter was with regard to Ireland. Mr. Parnell's manifesto, which had caused so much stir, was after all not new. They had long known what the hon. gentleman took his coat off for. Nor was there anything very terrible and shocking in Mr. Parnell's views about a protective tariff for Ireland—at least there ought not to be to a Tory Government who had appointed a commission to elicit opinions in favour of a protective tariff for England. Surely what was merely a pious opinion on the part of Mr. Lowther and Mr. Chaplin could not be so very wicked on the part of Mr. Parnell. Of course the Liberal party could give no countenance to such questions, and would do their best to persuade the Irish people that they would be doing themselves a great mischief if they resorted to such a course. But there were other demands which Mr. Parnell had made, and as practical men they had to consider how far they could go to meet those views and sentiments which were expected to give him an enormous power in the new Parliament, and would certainly make him a very formidable person in Imperial politics. Irish affairs made British politicians "acquainted with strange bedfellows," and here they had a Tory Peer (Lord Pembroke) writing in a Tory review that "Home Rule for Ireland should not be dismissed as unworthy of attention." But whatever course might be taken by the Tory party, which had lost its moorings and seemed like a vessel that had pirates on board, there was no doubt the authority of the landlords was shattered. Neither was there any doubt that the clergy had gone over to the Nationalist side; and even Mr. Clifford Lloyd condemned the old system of administration as utterly rotten and worthless. British statesmen had to consider how they were to build up the fabric of government in Ireland, which was now broken to its foundations. He was persuaded, after dispassionately considering the whole problem—with no reference to the Irish vote or to his own seat—that separation would be a disaster to Ireland and a disgrace to England. He did not believe that, if Ireland were separated from England to-morrow, it would make very much difference in the material and military strength of England; but he felt that to throw Ireland into the cauldron of revolution would be a dishonour from which English statesmen could never recover. Short of separation, he would go as far as he could, and he hoped his party would go as far as it could, to meet the views of the Irish nation, as soon as they were quite sure what the views of the Irish nation were. It was upon their consciences to build up a new government in Ireland in the place of that which was now made shipwreck. What that government should be—whether it should turn upon an elected council with executive functions, or whether the pendulum should swing back and a Crown colony should be established in the place of the present anarchic and mischievous system—in his opinion no solution would be adequate which did not recognise and attract to itself and use the indestructible national sentiment of the Irish people. They had to deal with the rational and right desire of the people of Ireland to manage their own affairs in their own way, and the problem only grew more and more perplexed by delay. The difficulties were enormous; they would tax the resources of British statesmen, and the patience and deliberateness of the British people, to the very utmost. But he would not believe that the political genius, sagacity, and inventiveness which had reared so noble a fabric of freedom and order in England, which had peopled vast continents with federations of self-governing men, which had even solved the more difficult problem of making a military despotism itself subservient to the bringing of the boons of peace and contentment to millions of men of strange races, creeds, and customs—he would not believe that all that political faculty of the English nation, which had been the admiration, wonder, and envy of the world, would fail now in the present task that was laid upon them by every consideration of duty and interest.

At a meeting of the Central Finsbury Liberal and Radical Association, at Foresters' Hall, Clerkenwell, on Tuesday, Mr. ARTHUR ARNOLD, M.P., explaining the programme of the Free Land League, said the starting point of the League was that the land is and must be national. They claimed the right of the people to deal, through Parliament, with the soil of the whole country. Whenever Parliament passed a railway Bill it asserted the right of the State, and "confiscated" the land necessary for the purposes of the Bill. This was an exercise of supreme ownership which was indisputable. The compensation was given, not as the price of a bargain made with the State, but by way of satisfaction for compliance with an irresistible decree. The objects of the League, if carried out, would enable any labourer who could save £5, or could obtain security for £5, to become in time a landed proprietor. That was no more than was done in Germany. If the agricultural labourers and the working masons and basketmakers round Coburg bought the land and did well by engaging in its cultivation, why should it be otherwise with the same class of men in the neighbourhood of our towns? He was glad to find Lord Hampden adopting the view of the League as to aiding local governments in promoting the diffusion of the ownership of land. There could be no safer foundation for the ladder by which the people might reach proprietorship. But all this would end in futile philanthropy unless they established a good system of transfer by registration of title. They contended for free land, and if a man was owner they could trust to the promptings of self-interest that he would not prove unmindful of the duties of property. It would be no trifling matter to abolish the power of settling land. That wretched system, which he thought was now doomed, ought not, however, to be prized by the better class of landlords, because it assumed that the majority of a generally educated class were improvident and incapable of doing justice to the estate and their families; and for the sake of the spendthrifts and their families hampered the much more numerous class. But to get free land, and to establish a system by which, partly perhaps through the medium of allotments, a large extent of the soil might pass into peasant proprietorship, they had a long struggle before them. The worst land system in the world would die hard. There would be plenty of misrepresentation, and much parade of fallacious arguments, of which part would be that British agriculture was the most productive. They replied that the value of the produce might be doubled. They would not be satisfied until the south of England was as rich and nearly as populous as Normandy or as Jersey. To that end they would labour to transfer the relics of the feudal system from our land to the British Museum. They looked to the Reform Act of 1885 to remove feudality from a baneful interference with the life of the country.

Sir Thomas S. Bazley, Bart., of Hatherop Castle, Gloucestershire, has addressed a letter to the *Wilts and Gloucestershire Standard*, replying to some statements made at a Political Conference at Coln, St. Aldwyn's, as to his exacting high rents for village allotments, and being "an old Whig." Having denied the first charge, Sir Thomas proceeds:—"I am, as hitherto, a Liberal, or old-fashioned Radical, as Radicalism used to be understood twenty years ago, or less. With modern Radical doctrines, distinguished as they are by Socialism, Communism in disguise, and rejection of the ordinary rules of political economy, I have no sympathy. My profession of Liberal faith could not be better expressed than in the intelligible portions of Mr. Gladstone's Midlothian speeches. But contrast the promise of those speeches with the performance of the last five years. Instead of Peace, Retrenchment, Reform, and Non-Intervention, we have had 'military operations,' a £100,000,000 Budget, and an attempt to pacify Ireland which is ending in failure, confusion, or worse. The 'Bulgarian atrocities' and the 'unspeakable Turk' are at last equalled by the bombardment of Alexandria and the useless slaughter in the Soudan; and as to Ireland, land reform was necessary enough, and the diminution in rents there, by legal process, is not greater than many of us have had to submit to, in this country, from the operation of natural causes; but why need the Government have tampered with treason? Your paper of the 29th August exhorted the electors to 'remember' a long list of Ministerial iniquities, and the catalogue is as formidable as it is true. But for all this, I venture to assert that Liberal principles are right; it is the men who have been wrong; and the embarrassments under which the late Government collapsed arose from their setting at defiance the cardinal axioms of Liberal policy. I cannot support such men directly or indirectly, nor vote for candidates who would promote their return to power; consequently, not being disposed to turn Tory, I hold aloof from electioneering altogether, and wait for better times. When Liberals express dissatisfaction with their leaders they are always supposed to meditate a Conservative alliance. It is so at present; but such an approach is more likely to occur, and to last, from increased liberality on the part of the Tories, than from a surrender by the Liberals of principles which, when fairly carried out, have proved so beneficial during the last fifty years. And signs are not wanting of improvements in this direction. When we find a highly-respected Rural Dean, himself a Tory of the Tories, assembling his parishioners in conference on political affairs, making a fair and temperate speech, and inviting a neighbouring Nonconformist minister (one of the Liberal Committee) to speak to the question—in a Church of England schoolroom—it must be admitted that liberality of sentiment and of action are not monopolised by the Liberal Party. It is said that the newly-enfranchised county electors will 'vote Liberal' to a man. The assertion is perhaps open to doubt; but if it be correct, they may be outnumbered by steady-going Liberals elsewhere, who, like myself, refuse to support a Government that, elected to maintain a Liberal policy, has done Tory work, and done it badly. For my own part, I anticipate a great and deserved disaster for the Liberal Party at the approaching election, and then, after a probable era of costly and 'spirited' Foreign Policy, experiments in 'Fair Trade,' and a general endeavour on the part of the Conservatives to set back the hands of time the country may find new Liberal leaders able to govern on the old lines, and with the former satisfactory results."

MR. CHAMBERLAIN AT GLASGOW.

Mr. CHAMBERLAIN addressed a meeting in St. Andrew's Hall, Glasgow, on Tuesday. Having referred to the last occasion on which he addressed them, prior to the general election of 1880, when he urged union, he said:—

"There are three questions which naturally present themselves. In the first place, is the necessity of union as great now as it was in 1879? In the second place, are the conditions on which alone union is possible as honourable and as acceptable? In the third place, are the objects which union will secure so important as to justify the sacrifice which we may be called upon to make? As to the first of these questions, I do not believe that any reasonable man can entertain any doubt. We are face to face at the present time with the possibility of a new, and I would almost say an unnatural, combination between the upholders of authority and privilege on the one hand, the traditional defenders of the Constitution, and, on the other, the irresponsible opponents of the integrity of the Empire. I have desired to see a real co-operation between the democracy of Great Britain and the National party in Ireland, in order to protect popular rights against oppression and privilege; and now I am not willing to afford any countenance to proposals that would keep apart nations that ought to be closely allied, and that would rudely sever a connection which may, indeed, have been abused in the past, but which yet in the future may be productive of the greatest advantage to the three kingdoms."

Mr. Chamberlain's remarks upon the subject of Disestablishment, with which he then proceeded to deal, will be found in another column. Having argued that Church Establishments tended to religious persecution, and that they had a harrowing influence on all their supporters, instancing evictions of Nonconformist tenants because they differed in religious opinions from their landlords, he tendered advice as to what attitude Liberal electors should adopt towards this question.

Mr. Chamberlain then adverted to what his critics called his "Socialistic programme," and restated his position thus:—

"I say that men are born with natural rights; that they have the right to existence, and the right to a fair and reasonable opportunity to enjoy it. Well, I must warn you that this has been called pernicious nonsense. I observe a gentleman the other day, a candidate for an agricultural constituency, carried it a little further. He said that human beings had no more natural rights than a pig or a cow. Well, I think that is rather and imprudent statement, and this candidate will find out that pigs have not got votes and that agricultural labourers have. I am not particular about words. Therefore if some persons object to the phrase 'natural rights,' let me see whether I cannot suggest something which they would be willing to accept in its place. Let us put the question of rights on one side, although I could quote in support of it such authorities as Mr. John Stuart Mill, and also a certain document which made a good deal of stir in its time—the Declaration of American Independence. Instead of rights, let us say that men are born into this world with claims upon the generosity, upon the justice of society, and that those claims ought to have the sanction and the authority of law. I admit that they are accompanied by obligations. I do not invite your sympathy for the lazy scamp or the idle drunkard who wants to live at the expense of his more industrious neighbours. You know that there are numbers of men who are neither idle nor dissolute, and who yet are doomed to lives of hopeless and monotonous toil, with no prospect in the future except a recourse to parish relief. Well, to these men, at least, I say society owes something, and it is the duty of statesmen to find the means of paying the debt. Then we have the problem—here it is in two sentences—how can we increase the material resources of the poor? How can we enlarge their opportunities of enjoyment?"

Having pointed out the limited pleasures of even the fabulously rich, he said:—

"We cannot, if we would, give to every one a fortune of £100,000 a year and a French cook; but we can, if we like, secure to every member of the community the enjoyments which are the chief prize of the existence of cultivated and educated rich men. You can give them free education. We can put their feet upon the ladder which leads up to the storehouse of knowledge, and by free libraries we can open to them all the genius of past times, all the history, all the imagination, all the experiences, all the science of all the ages. We can by galleries and museums cultivate their tastes for art and gratify their love of science. By parks and gardens we can give them the opportunity of innocent recreation and enjoyment. We can do more than that. By these same measures of wise co-operation, which some people call Communistic, but which to me seem to be simple co-operation, we can, if we like, make every poor man's cottage as healthy as the palace of the rich."

He had been challenged to state his theories on the subject of local government:—

"I want to build up a system of local government from below from small beginnings. I would like to see no parish, no village without some kind of local authority. I do not want to crush out the germs of local life, however small and insignificant they may appear to be. I want to foster them, and to promote the political education of the people. Then I want to see local authorities with wider areas and larger functions to deal with local matters in districts and in counties, and in this way I should expect to find the whole country covered with a network of popular representative bodies able to protect the rights of the people and to care for their most intimate interests. I have further proposed that there should also be established in Ireland and in Scotland—perhaps, also, in Wales and in England—national councils for dealing with affairs which, although they are national, are yet not of Imperial concern; that to such councils might be referred the local control and administration which is now exercised by official powers in Dublin and in Edinburgh and by the Departments of the Government in London, and perhaps that would be as far as it would be wise to go in the first instance; but if these councils were approved, if the work were satisfactory, then I think we might even hereafter go further, and we might entrust to them the duty of preparing legislation—legislation on national as contrasted with Imperial interests. The projects of law which such a body would prepare might be dealt with by the Imperial Parliament as now provisional orders are prepared by the Board of Trade or by the Local Government Board, and be afterwards passed into law by the two Houses at Westminster. If the proposals which such councils made were just and reasonable in themselves, I should hope that they would be passed without much discussion; but in any case, in this way I believe Parliament would be relieved of a burden which is daily becoming too heavy for its shoulders, and at the same time national sentiment and national feeling would find its due expression in legislation."

The last point upon which he would touch that night was, How are we to increase the material resources of the poor?

"For my part I see no hope whatever except in a radical revision of the laws which affect the tenure of the land. Wherever the general condition of the country is satisfactory there you will find that the labourer is at all events in great measure in possession of the soil he tills. That was the case in the Middle Ages in this country; it is the case now in Bavaria, in Switzerland, in the Channel Islands, in the Auvergne, and many of the favoured parts of France. It is said that the peasants in France and the countries I have named suffer under a more grievous evil even than the agricultural labourers in this country. It may be so. I do not think hard work ever killed any one, and I doubt if it has injured many. But these peasants have what our labourers lack. They have hope and security, and the certainty of sustenance for themselves and their families. I believe that any reform would be altogether illusory and inadequate which does not restore the labourers to the land. I will say nothing about the reform of the laws of entail and settlement and the cheapening of land transfer. They are excellent things, though a few years ago I was denounced as a Radical and a Revolutionary for saying so. Now even the Tories have come up to this limit, and I doubt not they will go a little further; but if we are to repair the mistakes of past generations, if we are to undo the work an artificial system has done in divorcing the

labourer from the soil, we must do something now to stimulate and encourage his replacement."

The practical proposals that they made were not very startling, were not very extravagant, were not revolutionary at all, and, like the great Lord Clive, he was astonished at his own moderation.

"We propose that the new local authorities should have power in every case—they need not exercise it unless they like it; that is, if the majority of the constituents desire it—that they should have power to obtain the land for public purposes at its fair value, and that among those public purposes should be the letting of the land for small holdings upon conditions which will give absolute security to the tenant as long as he fulfils them. This is a proposal which has already found expression in our Legislature—in the Artisans' Dwellings Act, for instance—and in much of the recent legislation affecting Ireland, and, for my own part, I cannot see why the English and Scottish labourer is not as worthy of consideration even as the Irish peasant. When I remember the principle has been accepted, when I know the violence of the opposition which is now made to this trifling extension of it, I wonder whether the objection to our proposal lies in the new condition that the land shall be obtained at its fair value. Hitherto whenever a public authority has had to obtain land for any public purpose an extortionate price has been demanded, and has been exacted as the privilege of the landowners. But I maintain that it is not one of the sacred rights of property; it is an unjust extension of them, to which we ought not to give any further sanction or authority. But it is said that this proposal will involve a heavy charge upon the already overburdened ratepayers. I do not believe that it will involve the charge of one single penny. Why should it? Why should labourers who have proved themselves over and over again able to pay the exorbitant rents which are now demanded from them, when with great difficulty they are able to obtain a rood of land, why should they fail to pay a reasonable rent to the local authority?"

In conclusion, Mr. Chamberlain invited those who did not approve his remedies to propose alternative measures for helping the poor. "If (he said) you have a better way we shall joyfully hear of it; but, for my part, neither sneers, nor abuse, nor opposition shall induce me to accept as the will of the Almighty and the unalterable dispensation of His providence a state of things under which millions lead sordid, hopeless, and monotonous lives, without pleasure in the present and without propect for the future."

Mr. Chamberlain was present on Wednesday morning at a luncheon in the New Club, Glasgow, given by Mr. Gilbert Beith, president of the Glasgow Liberal Association. Several of the office-bearers of the Association were invited to meet the right hon. gentleman, but the proceedings were of a private character. Mr. Chamberlain made a short speech, in the course of which he expressed his satisfaction with the meeting of the previous night, and with the robustness of the views stated by the delegates at the Liberal conference. Referring to the remark of one of the Scotch newspapers, that the farther north he travelled the more moderate he became, Mr. Chamberlain caused some amusement by recording his belief that he had always been moderate and judicious in his views, and in the manner in which he had ventilated them. At the same time he expressed his pleasure at having the fact recognised by the organs of Scotch opinion. Referring to a suggested reorganisation of the Liberal party in Glasgow, he sketched the scheme in force in Birmingham, and recommended its adoption elsewhere, warmly advocating the extension of the system of forming grand councils out of the various Two Hundreds or Three Hundreds of burghs. Such a council would be entitled to speak in the name of the whole of the Liberals of the borough. The opinion of a division or a ward was regarded as of little consequence by the country, but the views of a town like Glasgow or of the Liberals of Glasgow as a body would have weight with the public generally. The voice of Glasgow ought in the future to be heard through some such council as the Two Thousand of Birmingham. He dwelt upon the importance of the Two Hundred representing every fraction of Liberalism, and the necessity of requiring no qualification for membership except the profession of Liberalism. Every Liberal by virtue of his Liberalism had a right to be a member of the Liberal Association of the town in which he lived; and if any qualification were insisted upon the whole machinery would be sure to break down at the first general election. Thorough representation of Liberal opinions of all shades having been secured, the strictest adhesion to the decision of the majority should be insisted upon, and every man who did not loyally accept such a decision should be regarded as a traitor to Liberalism, and treated as such by being precluded from ever again holding office. Early in the afternoon Mr. Chamberlain left Glasgow for Aberfoyle.

MR. D. PLUNKET AT GLOUCESTER.

Mr. D. Plunket, M.P., addressing a meeting convened in support of the candidature of Mr. W. K. Wait for the representation of the city of Gloucester, which was held in the Shirehall on Wednesday under the presidency of Mr. Vassar Smith, observed that the experiences of the present Government had undoubtedly been fortunate during the short time they had been in office, both in domestic and foreign affairs. The measures they had contrived to pass, some on their own initiative and others which they took over in a state of semi-animation from their predecessors, had been welcomed by the people generally. They had also had opportunities of breathing fresh life and vigour into several of the great departments of the State at home, and the advent of Lord Salisbury to the Foreign Office had been signalised by the extrication of England from various apparently hopeless and dangerous complications abroad, and by a sense of satisfaction and repose created amongst our own people by the more friendly and conciliatory tone of all the great Continental Powers. In view of the approaching election, their opponents had not been able to find any very serious subjects of attack. Their opponents were very much disposed to quarrel among themselves as to what their rallying cry should be. The Radicals had already run themselves into a fever in their hunt after that cry, and their differences had developed into a furious conflict. Indeed, they did no longer call themselves one of the great parties of the State, but two of the great parties. He first became aware of this terrible state of affairs in the Liberal camp in consequence of reading a report of the speech made by Mr. Chamberlain a week ago at Warrington. Mr. Chamberlain was not only the most daring and self-reliant, but the ablest of the lieutenants who served under Mr. Gladstone in his last Administration. The first conclusion he drew from the Warrington speech was that Mr. Chamberlain was giving a good "going over" to some persons whom he described as "armchair politicians," and again as Rip Van Winkles, who had been slumbering on the top of the mountains, but who appeared to have come down for a moment to inform him that certain measures of sweeping revolution, upon which he had set his heart, must be excluded from the programme of the great Liberal party. Mr. Chamberlain practically told them in reply that if they persevered in such folly he would part company with them for ever, and appeal, as he said, to Cæsar, meaning the newly-enfranchised electors, from whom he said he had lately come. He afterwards became aware that the same persons so agreeably alluded to meant no other than Lord Hartington, who had a few days before, in his steady and sensible way, made a most excellent and Constitutional speech—he would call it an excellent Tory speech—to his constituents at a neighbouring town. If that was the kind of matrimonial dressing which Lord Hartington got before the public, what sort of Caudle lecture must he have had to endure behind the curtains of the Cabinet? The opinion of the majority of Englishmen would go much more with the sound sense and calm statesmanship of Lord Hartington than with the violent declaration of his eager rival and assailant. But the worst of it was that Lord Hartington had hitherto always had an awkward habit of expressing strongly opinions of most admirable common sense, but of backing down for them when challenged and bullied by Mr. Chamberlain. Mr. Chamberlain at Warrington was in an almost equal degree of exasperation with what he called the "stupid party," the "Tory Democracy," and the "fossil reactionaries." But that anger was a good deal tempered with fear as to the probable success of the stupid, helpless party at the next general election. To get up the necessary enthusiasm and passion, Mr. Chamberlain sketched his own revolutionary measures, dangling before the least educated of the people all kinds of bribes, no matter how impossible they were of fulfilment, no matter how inconsistent with the law of political economy, private property, and common honesty. It seemed to be hoped by the despairing wire-pullers of the Liberal party that so soon as Mr. Gladstone emerged from his tent he might be able to compose the differences between Mr. Chamberlain and Lord Hartington. Up to the present, however, Mr. Gladstone had been resolutely silent, and in that respect, though certainly not in any other, he appeared to resemble Captain Macheath in the play, when, distracted between rival beauties, he exclaimed—

> How happy could I be with either
> Were t'other dear charmer away;
> But since you both plague me together,
> To neither a word will I say.

He earnestly trusted that whatever else Mr. Gladstone might be willing to do for his former colleagues, he would not consent merely to patch up a hollow truce between those two rival schools of Liberal politicians who were now evidently, on many of the most important questions of domestic and foreign policy, absolutely and irreconcileably opposed. As an Irishman, he desired to say something upon the state of affairs in his own country, and he was sure they would be glad when he told them that, so far as he had been able to inform himself on the subject, the material prosperity of Ireland was at the present time, on the whole, satisfactory and encouraging. It was true there still existed an unfortunate depression in the price farmers were able to get for their cattle, but Providence had blessed them with an exceptionally favourable harvest. The average of ordinary crime, as proved by the records of the last assizes, was very low. Agrarian outrages had, as compared with recent years, sunk almost to a minimum, and, so far as could yet be judged, for he wished to speak with caution on the subject, the resolution of Lord Salisbury's Cabinet to carry on the government of Ireland during the approaching winter without having asked Parliament for exceptional legislation seemed likely to be vindicated by its success. Its wisdom must be judged by its consequence. He would be a daring man who, even now, would prophesy with certainty the course of events in Ireland during the next six months. But he was glad to know that his colleagues who had the best means of forming a judgment upon the subject felt confident that this great and serious experiment was likely to be justified by the result. There was no foundation for the charges of Mr. Chamberlain that the present Government got into office by a "Maamtrasna Alliance," or by the abandonment of Lord Spencer. The courage and firmness of Lord Spencer during his tenure of the office of Lord Lieutenant of Ireland had been fully recognised and applauded by Lord Salisbury as Prime Minister and by Sir Michael Hicks-Beach as Leader of the House of Commons. It was not true as a matter of fact that the inquiry into the Maamtrasna murder demanded by Mr. Parnell was granted. The reconsideration of the case which Lord Carnarvon offered was one which, according to the law of the land, he could not withhold. These accusations were but the reckless and desperate charges of a disappointed politician, and it was difficult, realising the record of this ex-Minister, not to admire the splendid audacity of the attack. A still more serious aspect of the Irish question at the present moment was the attitude taken up by Mr. Parnell in some recent speeches, in which he had again brought prominently into notice his demand for a separate Irish Nationality. Lord Hartington had spoken in strong and unequivocal language on that subject; but Mr. Chamberlain, while loudly refusing Mr. Parnell's present demand, had adopted a form of defiance which was conditional and elastic. He defied Mr. Chamberlain to point to one sentence ever uttered by any Tory Minister at the present, or at any former time, which held out the smallest encouragement to Mr. Parnell's demand. For them the maintenance of the Union must always be the charter of their cause. The follies and failure, the alternate weakness and violence of administration during the last six years, had produced in Ireland a state of affairs perhaps more formidable than had ever before occupied the minds of statesmen; but by a patient but fearless policy, by kindly and generous redress of all real grievances, by firm refusal of all demands dangerous, not only to the intermediate, but to the ultimate, integrity of the Empire, they must endeavour to wear down and outlive the perils of to-day, hoping that in the end they might bring lasting power and abiding happiness to the Irish people.

SIR MICHAEL HICKS-BEACH AT CIRENCESTER.

The Chancellor of the Exchequer (Sir M. Hicks-Beach) was present on Thursday evening at a meeting held in the Corn Hall, Cirencester, in the interest of Mr. J. E. Dorington, the Conservative candidate for the representation of the eastern (or Cirencester) division of the county of Gloucester. The right hon. gentleman pointed out that the issues involved in the approaching election were not to be regarded from a personal point of view, but as relating to an important political crisis in the history of the country. He claimed credit with both political parties for the reform that had lately taken place in the representation of the people, and expressed his belief that the electors of the county of Gloucester would pay no regard to the absurd stories that were being promulgated, to the effect that a Tory Government meant protection and dear food. He also deprecated the misrepresentation that seemed to promise, as the result of the advent of a Liberal Government, things that were impossible of achievement. He claimed for the Conservative party an earnest desire to do the best they could to promote the welfare of all classes of the community, and, referring to recent speeches of Mr. Chamberlain, he asked the meeting to judge of the prospect of the fulfilment of the promises of the member for Birmingham by what had happened in the past. He then reminded his hearers of the promises made by Mr. Gladstone in his Midlothian speeches, remarking that these had for the greater part been absolutely falsified by the result. Neither had the country obtained retrenchment in the expenditure, nor had it realised that peace which Mr. Gladstone had so loudly promised. The fact was that during Mr. Gladstone's past period of power as head of the Liberal Government the country had been almost constantly kept in a state of war. What, he asked, had happened in Egypt and the Soudan? Not only had the life of General Gordon, the emissary of the late Government, been sacrificed, but the whole of the operations that had been undertaken had proved abortive, while the money of the British taxpayers had been literally wasted in the sands of the Soudan. Was it, under these circumstances, wonderful that the expenditure of the country had, during the past year and for the first time in the history of the country, reached the enormous total of £100,000,000? He put it to the meeting to consider why it was that a Cabinet composed of so many able men had made so many failures, and had ended in so much disgrace. Perhaps the main reason was to be found in the fact that the late Cabinet was a disunited Cabinet, in which while one section advocated a firm and definite policy, the other section only favoured the policy of scuttle and abandonment. Why had Mr. Chamberlain called Lord Hartington a Rip Van Winkle? Clearly it was because of the wide divergence of opinion that existed between the two. Mr. Chamberlain, as representing the new creed of the advanced Liberals, proposed the disestablishment and disendowment of the Church, and the application of its revenues for the benefit of the people. Mr. Gladstone and Lord Hartington, on the other hand, had refused to give any countenance to such an outspoken programme, but seemed inclined to support the proposal for disestablishment if it were popular, and to leave the matter alone if it were found to be unpopular. The question was, however, a serious one, and it behoved the friends of the Church to take earnest action in regard to it, as there never had been a time when the position of the Church ranked higher in the estimation of the people, or when the work of that Establishment was more beneficially performed. He could not believe that any proposal to do away with the great English Church, which was the inheritance of the nation, would ever be accepted by the English people. Let it be reformed by all means where reform was needed; but, whatever was done, let them preserve for the country, and especially for the poor, an institution that had done so much for the benefit of the community. Mr. Chamberlain had charged the Conservative leaders with combining with Mr. Parnell and his friends to bring about the national independence of Ireland. He ventured to say that that charge had not the shadow of a foundation. They had not combined, and did not intend to combine, with Mr. Parnell and his friends for that or for any other purpose. They would treat Irish questions in a spirit of fairness and justice by whomsoever they might be brought forward. He could make some excuse for an English Radical who made such an accusation. It must, no doubt, be painful for Mr. Chamberlain to find his anticipated political tour in Ireland put an end to because he could not look forward to a popular welcome in that country. Mr. Chamberlain naturally felt deeply hurt at the ingratitude of the Irish democracy, which did not seem to have been bought by the singular and vacillating policy of mixed coercion and bribery—bribery at the expense of the landlords and of the Church—which was the staple of the Irish policy of the late Government, and which was far more akin to the ideas of Birmingham than it was to those of Dublin. He should like to ask Mr. Chamberlain, if he were so much opposed to the idea of national independence for Ireland, whether he thought he was really promoting that opposition by the scheme of great national councils he had put before the country. When he (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) was Secretary for Ireland eleven years ago, he met the demand of Mr. Butt and his followers for Home Rule by the suggestion that the system of local self-government in Ireland, as well as in Scotland and England, might be capable of very large amendment in a popular sense. But what was the reply he received? He did not get a single word of favour from any section of Irish politicians. And why? Because Home Rule then meant precisely the same thing as national independence meant now. Those who advocated national independence did not care for any alteration in the system of local government for itself, and if Mr. Chamberlain should carry out his suggestions he would be puzzled so to frame his scheme that Mr. Parnell should not find in it a lever to promote the very object Mr. Chamberlain so steadfastly refused. He (the Chancellor of the Exchequer) was as anxious as anyone could be to do something in the direction of decentralising the government of the country, and that had always been the policy of the Conservative party. But any such reform of local government should be accompanied by a reform of the present system of local taxation. He also shared Mr. Chamberlain's anxiety to increase the number of small holdings in this country, but he did not consider it wise or safe for the local authority to become the landowner. The policy which the Conservative party would follow was very different from the vacillating line which was pursued by the late Government. He saw only the other day in a Liberal journal the admission that there had been almost a magical change in the aspect of affairs since the present Government took office. That change had been secured not by war or costly operations—foolishly undertaken and hastily abandoned—but without the expenditure of a penny of the taxpayers' money, or a drop of British blood. The policy which had proved so successful in the hands of the Tory party would still be maintained by them in the interests of the welfare and integrity of the Empire.

SIXPENNY TELEGRAMS.

On the 1st of October next the new rate for inland telegrams will come into force. The charge will be 6d. for twelve words or less and ½d. per word afterwards. Every word, including the addresses, will be charged for; but it is anticipated that in the majority of cases the senders of telegrams will need only to have their names telegraphed. The new form is arranged so that the address of the receiver comes at the head of the telegram in the space which has hitherto been occupied by the address of both sender and receiver, six lines, divided into five spaces each, being given for the text of the message and such information as to name and address as the sender thinks necessary to have telegraphed. A special place at the back of the form is devoted to the sender's address where this is not to be telegraphed, as in such cases it will still be necessary for the department to have the address in order to be able to communicate with the sender in the event of the telegram failing to be delivered, or any charge for porterage having to be recovered from him. It also happens, sometimes, that persons require copies of telegrams they have sent; and in such a case, if the sender has failed to give his name and address, the department would not be able without vexatious formulas to comply with the request. In consequence of the change of rate, the following alterations in the mode of counting will be made. Names of towns and villages will be counted as one word each. Thus Malvern Wells, which under the former rules was counted as two words, will be only one. Again, figures which were counted as one word each will be counted, as in Continental telegrams, at the rate of five figures to a word. Thus 344, Oxford-street, which under the former rules was counted as five words, will be only three. Initial letters will still be charged for as one word each; but a special exemption has been made in favour of the London district initials. Each set of these will count as one word only. Thus, "S.W." will count as one word. The charge for redirection will be 6d. for a telegram of any length if the two addresses are within the same town. If the addresses are not in the same town the full rate will be charged. For the purpose of this rule each London district is regarded as a separate town.

THE BRITISH ASSOCIATION.

Five out of the eight sections of the British Associations met on Saturday, but at an earlier hour than usual, in order to enable the members to proceed on the excursions. No subject of striking interest was brought forward in any of the sections. All the excursions took place in spite of the extremely unfavourable weather which prevailed. Next year's meeting of the Association was fixed at the Montreal meeting to be held at Birmingham. For the meeting of 1887 the invitation of Manchester has been accepted.

After a day of play on Saturday and a day of rest on Sunday the members of the British Association applied themselves to work on Monday. The programme was the heaviest yet attempted, the number of papers to be read in the various sections being 118. It was found necessary in order to overtake the pressure in the Physiological Department to organise a supplementary section, of which Professor Stirling was appointed president. The attendance was large in all the departments, particularly in those of Economy and Mechanics, where papers of considerable popular interest were taken. In the department of Mechanics, Mr. Lewis Edwards read a paper on Electric Lighting and the Law. He strongly condemned the Act passed in 1882, which, he said, had practically made the extension and improvement of electric lighting for general purposes an impossibility. The fault of the Act was in placing such stringent conditions upon persons supplying electricity, and in asking so much of them as to deprive them of the opportunity of realising an adequate return for their outlay. Captain Dalton agreed that the action of the Government in this matter had tended entirely to stop the progress of electric lighting. He contended that the electric lighting companies should be put upon precisely the same footing as the gas companies. This important and useful industry had been weighted entirely through the action of Mr. Chamberlain and Sir Thomas Farrer at the Board of Trade. In the Mathematical Section a report was submitted by the committee on standards of white light, stating that they had looked into the merits of different proposed standards, and the majority felt satisfied that for all the present commercial requirements the pentane standard of Mr. Vernon Harcourt, since it had no wick and consumed a material of definite chemical composition,

when properly defined, was an accurate and convenient standard, and gave more accurately than the so-called standard candle an illumination equal to that which was intended when the Act was framed. The committee did not, however, feel inclined at present to recommend the adoption of any standard for commercial purposes until further information on radiation had been obtained for experiment.

In the Biology Section on Tuesday Sir John Lubbock read notes on the intelligence of the dog. Sir John remarked that it was surprising how little we know about the true nature of animals, considering how long they and we had lived together in intimate association. This, he thought, arose very much from the fact that hitherto we had tried to teach animals instead of to learn from them—to make the dog, for instance, understand us rather than to understand the dog. He suggested that some such system as that adopted with deaf mutes, and especially by Dr. Howe in the case of Laura Bridgman, might be tried with advantage. For this purpose he selected a black poodle, Van, and then prepared pieces of cardboard, 10in. long by 3in. wide, on which he printed words, such as "food," "water," "tea"; and no one who had seen Van look down a row of cards and pick out the one he wanted could doubt that he was able to distinguish the different words and quite understand that a card was equivalent to a request. The cards were certainly not recognised by scent, because he used a number of each. He suggested that some one with sufficient leisure might carry this much further, and that the attempt would be well worth making. Sir John passed rapidly in review various scattered notices on the subject, mentioning the curious fact that one of the solitary wasps which stores up insects in its cell as food for the grub, and in which the female is much larger than the male, provides ten insects for the one and only five for the other, showing not only that she knows whether the egg will produce a female or male, but also apparently that she can count up to ten. He mentioned briefly the attempt he had made to test his dogs in this respect. Professor Flower complimented the section on the value of the paper, and mentioned that he had seen within the last few weeks a dog which knew the return of the Sunday. Nothing would induce the dog to go out with him, although on other days, when he took his stick and hat, he showed great anxiety to go with him. Professor Flower attached great importance to kindness in the teaching of animals. Miss Katherine Wray gave an interesting account of how in three weeks, by means of a bone attached to the door-bell, she had taught a dog to ring the bell. Mr. C. C. Walker mentioned that he knew a family which had taught their dog to howl at the late Opposition, and to show interest at the mention of the late Government. Mrs. Stokes thought that some minds seemed to have a greater power of communication with animals than others, and she mentioned an English professor who seemed to have the power of calling birds from the sky. In the Economic Section, Mr. Corry, the president of the Chamber of Shipping, read a paper advocating guarantee by the State of war-risks at sea. Professor Leone Levi contended that it was not the duty of the State to guarantee war-risks, and that war ought to be as difficult as possible. Dr. W. A. Hunter characterised the proposal of the shipowners as barefaced and impudent. In the Geographical Section Admiral Sir Erasmus Ommanney argued that with ships properly fitted up with steam propulsion it would yet be perfectly possible to winter in the Antarctic regions. The Geological Section was engaged in the consideration of papers on the geology of East Central Africa. In the Chemical Section a discussion took place on the size of molecules. In the Economic Science Section Professor Munro read an elaborate paper giving an account of the eight sliding-scales now in use in the coal industry.

Four sectional meetings were held on Wednesday, when papers which had stood over from previous meetings were disposed of. Sir Lyon Playfair, presiding at the concluding general meeting, congratulated the Congress on the success which had attended it, particularly in regard to research in science. The Queen had shown her sympathy with the prosperity of the Association, and had personally expressed to him the interest she had taken in the work of the various sections. It was announced that grants of money for scientific purposes, amounting to £1,195, had been made; and the customary votes of thanks having been accorded, the meeting was adjourned until Sept. 1 at Birmingham.

BATH.

A reviewer in the *Athenæum*, dealing with a volume recently published on the municipal records of Bath, gives the following interesting *resumé* of the history of that city:—

"Unlike its more military neighbour Bristol, Bath was never intimidated by and tributary to a feudal castle overlooking its walls. At the former place the Mayor, until the time of Edward III., was directed to be sworn before the Constable of the Castle, at the castle gate, as the Mayor of London was sworn before the Constable of the Tower; but Bath was self-centred and self-contained, the legislation being always vested in a self-elective chamber, consisting of a Mayor and 'College of Aldermen.' Of course, like Bristol and other ancient boroughs, the city was bought or sold like a cargo of merchandise, or leased out like a tenement or rural farm by King, baron, or priest, according to who was the latest owner. In Offa's time Bath was a Royal demesne, and thus continued to the time of Rufus, by whom it was sold to John de Villula, Bishop of Wells, who made it his episcopal seat, becoming the first Bishop of Bath and Wells. Savaric, his successor, preferred the mitred abbacy of Glastonbury even to his double bishopric, and therefore surrendered Bath to Richard Cœur de Lion in exchange for the noble monastery in the Vale of Avalon. A facsimile is prefixed to this volume of the earliest municipal record preserved, which was granted by Richard in 1189, and it ordained that the citizens of Bath should have the same freedom from toll for their merchant goods as that enjoyed by Wincester and its merchant guild. But no wide-watered shore has enabled Bath to figure in matters of commerce or in nautical enterprise. Her heroes are kings of ceremonies, not captains of argosies or of discovery ships. She once, however, was eminent for her woollen looms, Chaucer's Wife of Bath being hackneyed evidence, and she supplies an alliterative adjective for her beaver and her buns, while the 'beggars of Bath' were once proverbial. 'Whither,' says Fuller, 'should fowl flock in a hard frost but to the barn door? here all the two reasons being the general confluence of the gentry.' But her baths are her chief attraction, and her healing springs. The recent excavations by the local Schliemann, Mr. C. E. Davis, particularly the discovery of a bath noble enough for Diana and her maids, give a typical notion of the magnificence of Roman Bath. But even the name is stamped out by barbaric invasions, and it is curious to notice the successive changes to its present form. Aquæ Solis was superseded by Akemannes-ceaster after the capture by the Saxons. It was subsequently, however, called Bathan-ceaster, the City of the Bath, and, oddly enough, it at a later period was known as 'The Bath.' An eminent living historian has confessed his ignorance why and when the definite article was first prefixed, the only English analogy being 'The Devizes'; and he believes that the name does not thus appear in old records and that it was not adopted before the place became fashionable, when its visitors were delighted by the descriptive article. 'In the *Spectator* the article is always prefixed. Yet the practice does seem to be very old. Clarendon speaks of Bath, not The Bath, though a few pages before he speaks of The Devizes.' A reference, however, to the *Calender of State Papers* of Charles I.'s period would discover that the article was commonly prefixed. Thus, to cite one of the numerous like items:—June 23rd, 1628, John Gifford and Samuel Baskerville, doctors of physic, certify to the Council that 'Martin James, son of the late Sir H. James, has been ill for six months, and that the Bath is likely to do him much good;' also, May 8th, 1630, 'The Earl of Rutland was lately at the Bath.'

"The vicissitudes of the baths are the vicissitudes of Bath, especially from the time that Bishop John de Villula erected here his throne, attracted by the virtues of the springs. While the Bristolians were fighting against their obnoxious castle in the days of Edward II. or found their walls surrounded by Bolingbroke and his northern army, as celebrated in Shakespeare's *Richard II.*, or besieged by Prince Rupert at one time and Fairfax at another, Bath, from the unimportance of her military position, was as quiet as the monastery in her midst. Of course there was the dissolution of that monastery, an event which troubled the citizens but little. The newly-erected conventual church was offered to them for 500 marks, but they refused to purchase it, and plundered the sacred building instead. They stripped away glass, iron, and lead, the last item amounting to 480 tons, and shipped their booty, together with the bells, to Spain, losing the whole, we are glad to read, in the passage. A noble burgher, Matthew Colthurst, who had acquired the despoiled fabric by purchase, presented it to the undeserving Chamber for use as a consolidated parish church.

"Down to the Dissolution the springs were vested in the prior and monks, and, with the exception of the King's Bath and other baths beyond the monastic precincts, they then passed to Humphrey Collis, who purchased the Abbey estate. So much had the baths declined in estimation in the days of Elizabeth that Dr. Turner in 1562 lamented that, though money enough was spent upon cock-fighting and other rude sports, he had not 'heard tell that any riche man hath spente upon these noble bathes, so profitable to the hole comanwelth of Englande, one grote these twentye years.' In 1579 the rights of the Chamber were let at so small a sum as one pound ten shillings a year. Soon after this, however, Bath again sprang into fame, and many payments in the Chamberlain's accounts during the close of Elizabeth's reign are for improvements in the baths. One illustrious visitor about this period, it is assumed, was Shakespeare himself. The Lord Chamberlain's company played at Bath no fewer than fourteen times between 1587 and 1601, and Shakespeare is the only one of the sixteen actors who appears to have recorded impressions of the place.

"Cupid laid by his brand and fell asleep:
A maid of Dian's this advantage found,
And his love-kindling fire did quickly steep
In a cold valley-fountain of that ground;
Which borrowed from this holy fire of love
A dateless lively heat, still to endure,
And grew a seething bath, which yet men prove
Against strange maladies a sovereign cure.
But at my mistress' eye Love's brand new-fired,
The boy for trial needs would touch my breast;
I sick withal the help of Bath desired,
And thither hied a sad distempered guest,
But found no cure; the bath for my help lies
Where Cupid got new fire—my mistress' eyes.

* * * * *

This brand she quenched in a cool well by,
Which from Love's fire took heat perpetual,
Growing a bath and healthful remedy
For men diseased; but I, my mistress' thrall,
Came there for cure, and this by that I prove:
Love's fire heats water, water cools not love.
Sonnets 153—4."

HEDGING PROVERBS.

Whether it be owing to the influence of the School Board and the Meteorological Society, or whether it be that faith in the wisdom of our fathers is dying out in this precocious age, is hard to determine, but the fact remains that only among the so-called rustics are proverbs anent the weather and the crops still remembered. There are, it is true, a goodly number of people who still pin a wavering faith to St. Swithin; but the irregularity he has shown in keeping his engagements has of late years severely tested the loyalty of his followers, and it would seem that a time is at hand when he, too, will be no more considered than the crowd of his once prophetic brother saints. And this is a pity, for there still remain countless scraps of weather folk lore; and there is no doubt that if the hero of debate can quote some old jingle about the season and its signs, his remarks, Gilpin-like, carry weight, for it is rarely that anyone else can adduce a series of contradictory instances at a moment's notice. Moreover, when the men of old time compressed the results of their observation into proverbs, they added not a little of their wisdom, for, there being no assignable limit to the construction of saws, there grew up a series of "hedging" proverbs which might be used to supply Rolands for Olivers in argument. Thus the farmer would shake his head as he looked at his lank, lazy, good-for-nothing son and sadly murmur, "Ill weeds grow apace," but the fond mother had her answer ready in "Good rye grows high."

Perhaps, after all, it is the fact of such antinomies abounding that has discredited proverbs, for books of weather lore might be, as doubtless they have been, written, which should completely mystify the seeker after knowledge. Take, for instance, the present year of grace, 1885, and suppose that it is desired to draw conclusions from its crops and weather. To begin with the crops. There was a very large quantity of cherries gathered this season, and we are told that "A cherry year, a merry year." So far so good. Merry may means almost anything save miserable, and we should gladly dub the year merry were we not brought to a sudden check by remembering that beans have been equally plentiful, and that our French neighbours declare, "Année de fèves, année de misère." This brings us back again to the starting-point, and forces us to turn elsewhere for information. Well, so far the most productive trees have been nuts, pears, and plums. We start fair once more with "A good nut year, a good corn year." (Here again the cantankerous Frenchman has "Année de noisette, année de lisette;" but this is clearly mere perversity, and if any advance is to be made he must be disregarded.) It is not at all a bad corn year, so the saw may be counted good, and we can go on to the pears. "A good pear year, a dear year." "Dear" is certainly an ambiguous word, and though there is some reason for suspecting that it was meant in this case to bear the sense of expensive, referring to bad corn crops, yet regard for consistency makes us incline to treat the epithet as one of affection, when it admirably agrees with the last conclusion. So we can proceed to see what the plums have to say. "A plum year, a dumb year," says the man of Kent: this is somewhat of a Sibylline utterance, and demands a pause for thought. Years are not often styled dumb, and it is natural to think that the word must refer to the silence of prominent men; but this cannot be, for the framer of the saw would surely have foreseen the possibility of a general election taking place in a plum year. Seeking for meaning and finding none very apparent, one is tempted to accept the suggestion that with the exception of the vulgar "ruin," there was no other available rhyme for plum. But perish such a thought! The man of Kent would die sooner than trifle over such a matter, and bids us search again. A commentator has opined that "dumb" may refer to the silence of death in the land, and if we receive this opinion, the saying will chime in with the, perhaps, more familiar, "plum year, cholera year," which also seems to be not without foundation. There is nothing very inconsistent here, and we gather that cherries, merriness, nuts, corn, affection, pears, plums, silence of death, and cholera are travelling companions. Just one glance more to make sure that no contradictory exists. No, it's all right—but stop? what's this? In Devonshire they say, "In the year when plums flourish everything else fails." There is no possibility of escape from this; it is emphatic, and the meaning clear as a telescope; and our carefully raised edifice must come down with a run.

But, after all, the kernel we want is not to be found so much in fruit stones as in the hard nuts of the weatherwise, so we may dismiss the lying crops and see what can be gathered in the way of signs for weather prognostications. (Weather is properly always prognosticated or prognosticates: you may predict, foretell, or prophesy other things, but you must prognosticate weather. The Royal Meteorological Office is generally wrong, simply because it forecasts.) In these cases the proverbs do not always run in couples, and as a rule each one does its own hedging, either by means of obscurity of expression or by vaguely insinuating that in the event of rain not falling the weather will probably be fair. Thus, as an example of the first kind, we learn—

When the sun doth feed the clay,
England woe and well-a-day!
But when the clay doth feed the sand,
Then it is well with England.

The first couplet is explained to refer to a wet and the last to a dry summer, because (and it is to be hoped that this is quite clear) there is more clay than sand in England. Now, the past summer has been dry, or, to put it better, the clay has been feeding the sand, and so if we accept this explanation we may assume it is going to be well with England. But on the other hand there are some who assert that—

A good leak in June
Sets all in tune;

and that "A wet August never brings dearth," and if these be right a wet summer would seem to have advantages of its own which flatly contradict the beginning of the obscure quatrain. It is, however, too much to expect that accuracy can be obtained by generalities applying to a whole season and country, and it may be more useful to attempt no more than may be gathered from the signs of the present month. There has been a good deal of thunder about during the last week, and the Book of Knowledge informs us that "Thunder in September signifieth the same year great wind, plenty of corn, and much falling out between man and man." This bears the stamp of credibility, and though the plums have given the lie to plenty of corn, there is no reason why we should not confidently look forward to the wind and rain falling out, especially about November. It is as well to rest satisfied with this probability, for the search after further certainty lands us in doubt once more. Thus the German saying runs, "September Regen für Saat und Reben dem Bauer gelegen," but the opinion of late harvesters and hop-growers in no way coincides with this. But here is an observation which has some approach to certainty. In his *Perennial Kalendar*, Foster says of September 15, "The weather is at least six times out of seven fine on this day," so should it rain this year late garden parties may be confidently fixed for this date next year. On the whole, it is best to confine prognostications to one day. It is true that a good example of the double-faced proverb confronts one at the start in searching to know the weather of the morrow, for—

If the sun in red doth set
The next day surely will be wet;
But if the sun doth set in grey
Rain will fall the following day;

but if one passes over this and its many kindred sayings, there are many signs by which to tell the weather of a day. But the task is no light one, and the would-be weather-wise must prepare for a long search after the various concomitants which make prognostication possible. Dr. Jenner composed a poem setting forth the combinations to be examined, and from this it appears that there were no fewer than thirty kinds of objects, a certain condition of which made rain probable. These include the winds, soot, dogs, sun, pimpernel, stairs, old Betty's joints, cats, dust, toads, and swine.

No doubt weather proverbs have been proved useful, but equally surely have they been often cursed for mendacity, and one is inclined to conclude that none is so true as the Danish proverb, "The almanac-maker makes the almanac, but God makes the weather."—*Pall Mall Gazette.*

FUNERAL REFORM.

On Sunday, Sept. 13, the Rev. F. Lawrence, one of the Committee appointed by the British Association to promote the exploration of Eastern Palestine, and Hon. Sec. of the Funeral Reform Association, preached in St. Andrew's Church, Aberdeen, from the text "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was, and the spirit shall return to God who gave it," Eccl. xii. 7. In this passage are joined together that which is material and that which is spiritual, that which mingles with the dust and that which rises to the immediate presence of God. Can we then think that, while the soul is cared for by God, and received into His bosom, *that the body is not also cared for?* Both are His. The body was the temple of the living God. Moreover, it was fearfully and wonderfully made, bearing the impress of a Divine Creator; and in a way we do not understand, it shall rise again. Therefore must it be dealt with reverently. "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was." Such is the utterance of the inspired writer. Not, then, to be destroyed by cremation, for that would be a strange and violent method; not to be enclosed in a solid, imperishable casement, for that would be no burial at all, but only an arrested and prolonged condition of decay, dishonouring to the dead and dangerous to the living. What then? That much-loved form, very dear in life, very beautiful in death, with that peculiar beauty which distinguishes the recently dead. You will not permit it to suffer indignity and injury by long exposure to the air; nor will you mar your last recollection of that ineffable beauty. Rather will you give it prompt burial; and you will endeavour to give it back effectually to that kindly, motherly earth whence it came, and of whose substance it is. So the coffin will be of the simplest, and such as shall speedily perish, that the earth may exercise upon the body its beneficent action. And this is what will happen. There will be no decay in the ordinary sense of the word. Through the superincumbent earth will descend the air, with its dews and its rains, and as it reaches the body will resolve it into new and harmless products which will rise in air to nourish the grass and trees above. Thus, in a lower and more immediate way the body rises again. And when six or seven years have passed away naught will remain save harmless, inorganic matter. "Then shall the dust return to the earth as it was. Earth to earth, ashes to ashes, dust to dust."

The following arrangements have been made to bring the objects of the Church of England Funeral and Mourning Reform Association under the notice of the Church at the ensuing Portsmouth Church Congress:—Sermons on Sunday, October 4, in St. Jude's Church, Southsea, and on Monday, October 5, in St. Mark's Church, Portsea; Conferences on Monday, October 5, at 3 p.m., in the Guildhall, Portsmouth, Lieutenant-General Sir G. Willis, K.C.B., in the chair, on Tuesday, October 6, at 8 p.m., in the Sailor Boys' Room, Penny-street, on Wednesday, October 7, at 4 p.m., in the Wesley School, and on Thursday, October 8, at 4 p.m., in the Wesley School; Sermon on Sunday, October 11, in Winchester; Conference on Monday, October 12, at 2.30, in the Chapter Room, Winchester Cathedral. Among those who have signified their intention of taking part are:—The Bishop of Bath and Wells, Lord Mount Temple, the Deans of Winchester, Gloucester, and Manchester, Sir C. FitzWigram, K.C.B., M.P., the Ven. Archdeacon Sumner, Lieutenant-Colonel Murray, the Clerk of the Peace, the Rev. J. S. Blake, Dr. Oxford, Dr. E. J. Wallace, the Rev. Canon Du Boulay, the Rev. P. T. Eliot. From the formation of the Society in 1878 to the end of last year the total amount received from every source was £392 12s. 8d., and as the work has now assumed very large proportions, an increased income is much needed. An earnest appeal is, therefore, made for annual subscribers of five shillings each. At present the annual subscriptions amount to £62 5s.

In connection with the Blackfriars Playhouse a most important discovery of documents, date 1553-5, has been made at the Public Record Office. They establish the remarkable fact that in the reign of Philip and Mary two tennis "courses" or "playes" occupied the internal area of the old church of St. Anne, which had stood for "two hundred" years. One of the witnesses, whose evidence is recorded in the document, says:—"He is very certen and assuryd that the same place where the same parysshe Churche was ys nowe or lately was erectyd and buyldyd a Tennys Court." This parish church of St. Anne—joined to, but (as the witnesses aver) altogether independent of, the conventual church of the Black Friars—had, together with other buildings, been converted by Sir Thomas Cawarden into the headquarters of the masks and revels. Afterwards it seems to have served during a short period as a place of recreation for the tennis-playing youth of the City; and it appears all but certain that within so much of its walls as remained was ultimately founded the well-known playhouse.

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JOHN BULL.

LONDON, SEPTEMBER 19.

HISTORY OF THE WEEK.

The dispute between Germany and Spain is still unsettled, and so long as it remains unsettled may at any moment blaze out into a European conflagration. But the prospects of a peaceful solution if they have not increased have not diminished, and the King of SPAIN, who has shown himself far more of a statesman than his Ministers, will, we trust, continue to be able to hold in check the impetuous zeal of his subjects. But his position is a dangerous one, and he does not derive the assistance which he ought from his Ministers, or from the Opposition. The former suffer from a lack of ability, the latter from a lack of true patriotism. Negotiations on the real point in dispute have been in a great measure suspended pending the diplomatic explanations demanded by Germany as to the attack on the German Legation by the Madrid mob. These would not, however, offer any serious difficulty if any means of bringing the graver question behind to a satisfactory issue could be devised. Spain's consciousness of weakness renders any surrender on her part without offending the *amour propre* of a specially sensitive populace all the more difficult, while Germany considers that she has gone to the very verge of possible concession in consenting to discuss the Spanish claims and submit them to arbitration. Our own Cabinet has recommended Spain to consent to that course, and the name of the King of ITALY has been mentioned as a possible arbitrator. Meantime both parties are acting on the time-honoured rule *si vis pacem bellum para*, and naval preparations are being pushed forward.

France, like England, is engaged in an electoral campaign, and M. CLEMENCEAU, like his antitype on this side of the Channel, is denouncing his RIP VAN WINKLES. But, unlike England, France has only a personal question before it, and the choice between M. FERRY and M. BRISSON is something very different from the choice between Lord SALISBURY and Mr. GLADSTONE. The French Extremists and the English Radicals have much in common between them, but they are opposed to different foes, and Conservatism seems for the present almost moribund in France, but we are glad to think is very much alive in England. M. CLEMENCEAU'S programme is the Birmingham programme unveiled. We in England are not as yet educated down to an acceptance of it in its naked deformity. But the doctrine of ransom and the policy of plunder are common to both English and French Radicals, only the French are more logical in the conclusions which they draw from their principles, and have gone somewhat further on the road which those principles point out, so that they can afford to announce their ultimate destination more plainly than their English brethren, who have yet the Girondists among them whom they do not like to shock too much just at present.

As we pointed out last week, it is unreasonable to expect the Egyptian muddle left by the GLADSTONE Ministry to be cleared up all in a moment, and those who are impatient at the slow progress of Sir DRUMMOND WOLFF'S mission fail to realise the difficulties of the situation. Turkish diplomacy is always lengthy, even when the difficulties of the situation are not as great as they are in the attempt to establish a satisfactory *modus vivendi* between English interests and Turkish authority in the land of the KHEDIVE. It is not, therefore, necessary to seek for any external influences delaying or impeding the negotiations, though France would not be France nor Russia Russia if they did not respectively do their best to prevent any satisfactory solution being arrived at. Nor is it necessary to assume that the SULTAN is "sitting on the rail" to see how the English elections turn out, though, of course, the possibility that he may have to deal with a different Ministry after the elections cannot be altogether absent from his mind. But, as the *Daily News* admits, a *rapprochement* between the unspeakable Turk and his Midlothian denouncer was quite on the cards before the Conservatives came in, so that it will not be absolutely necessary for the Liberals, if they return to office at the end of the year—*absit omen*—to repudiate all that Lord SALISBURY has done to restore to England its true position in Europe with the same indiscriminating zeal as was shown by Mr. GLADSTONE in repudiating all that Lord BEACONSFIELD had done. Lord SALISBURY'S foreign policy has at least scored one conspicuous success in the arrangement of the vexed point in reference to the Zulficar Pass. As we have often said, we attach but little importance to minute questions connected with the Afghan frontier, and place little reliance on Russian promises. But the dispute about Zulficar had threatened to assume an awkward appearance, and Lord SALISBURY is sincerely to be congratulated on having settled it.

An important meeting was held in the City on Wednesday, to protest against the recall of Sir CHARLES WARREN from Bechuanaland. It was attended by men of all parties, and was presided over by so staunch a Conservative as the LORD MAYOR. We cannot, therefore, regard it as having anything of a party character, or to have been intended to hamper the action of the Ministry, or to censure it for the mere sake of censuring. It affords rather an additional reason for desiring some explanation from Colonel STANLEY. Though speech is silver and silence is gold, it would be as well that on the present occasion the COLONIAL SECRETARY should be found among the advocates of Bimetallism. The longer he withholds his explanation the greater opportunity he gives to those who are animated by less worthy motives than the speakers at the City meeting to misrepresent his action, and to hold him up as acting towards Sir CHARLES WARREN as his brother did towards Sir BARTLE FRERE. That an explanation can be given we fully believe; and this makes us the more regret the delay in giving it. A suspicion that Sir CHARLES WARREN has been thrown over, and that all that he has done is to be undone, is not one which ought to be allowed to be entertained. In the interests alike of England and South Africa and of the COLONIAL SECRETARY, it is time for him to take the country into his confidence. If anything could arouse in Colonel STANLEY an uneasy suspicion that his policy is not what it should be, it would be the fact that he has earned the praise of Mr. GLADSTONE for having declined to "extend our territorial "responsibilities."

The international race between the *Genesta* and the *Puritan*, over which so much excitement has been expended in America, and which has been watched with no little interest in this country, has at length, after several unsuccessful attempts, been brought to an issue. That issue, after a most close and exciting contest, was in favour of the *Puritan*, and was received with the greatest enthusiasm by the Americans. But as the difference of time between the two vessels in a course of forty miles was under a minute and a half, the old country, though defeated, was not disgraced. We own that we are not cosmopolitan enough to help feeling some regret that the *Genesta* was defeated, though we on this side of the Atlantic have hardly regarded the race with the same absorbing interest as the inhabitants of the States, who, whether they work or play, do nothing by halves, and whose pride in the old country is only exceeded by their delight in whipping her. It should not be overlooked as an element in the contest that while American yachts are built for speed, and for speed only, the English yacht is a sea-going vessel, in which all considerations of comfort are not sacrificed to the improvement of its capacity as a racing machine. Nor must we omit to console ourselves with the recollection that the *Genesta* suffered from the foul in one of the previous attempts at sailing the match, which inflicted injuries that had to be hastily repaired, to the detriment of her racing capacity. Technically that foul would have entitled Sir R. SUTTON to claim the victory; but all true lovers of sport on this side of the Atlantic, disappointed as they may be in the ultimate result of the contest, will prefer such a defeat to a victory so obtained. We are not speaking of the bookmakers, who naturally feel aggrieved that the owner of the *Genesta* should have preferred to sail his yacht in the spirit of a true sportsman rather than of a bookmaker.

Another item of news comes to us from America, which serves to remind us that it is not only our descendants on that side of the Atlantic who are liable to violent aberrations of enthusiasm, called forth by subjects hardly adequate in a more sober view to arouse them. Jumbo is dead. That "huge earth-shaking "beast" is not to return again to gladden the eyes and hearts of his disconsolate votaries at the Zoological Gardens. But it is of no broken heart at the loss of those votaries that the poor animal died. Distinguished in his life as the theme of so much gushing eloquence in the columns of the *D.T.*, he, as was but fitting, died no common death. The first elephant whose departure was mourned as a national calamity, he is also the first elephant who has been killed by a railway train. He was walking along the track near St. Thomas, Ontario, in his position as a member of BARNUM'S travelling circus, when a freight train came up unexpectedly, and he fared as GEORGE STEPHENSON predicted that it would fare with the "coo" when he was cross-examined before a Parliamentary Committee on the possible results of cattle straying on railway lines. That danger is generally guarded against on American railways by a cow-catcher. But no cow-catcher would suffice to carry off a Jumbo.

Crossing the Tweed has made some difference in Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S views on the subject of Disestablishment. This would be somewhat strange even if we could assume that the right honourable gentleman was influenced either by considerations of logic or of principle. These considerations, however, cannot explain the change of tone. It is not that there is to the supporters of Disestablishment any logical difference between the position of the Scotch Kirk and that of the English Church, great though the logical difference between the position of the two may be in the eyes of a member of the English Church—a point which we have discussed at length elsewhere. A consistent opponent of an Establishment opposes it without any regard to the form or doctrine of the religion established. He will say, "*Tros "Tyriusve mihi nullo discrimine agetur.*" A consistent supporter of an Establishment supports it, not because it is established, but because he believes that both in form and doctrine it is the Church which ought to be established. All Establishments, whether it be the Church of CHRIST in England or the Church of MAHOMET in Turkey, are equally objectionable to the former, and he is illogical in drawing a distinction between them. Therefore it cannot be any superior merit in the Kirk which has won for it the degree of tolerance which was accorded to it by Mr. CHAMBERLAIN at Glasgow. The true reason is not far to find. Rightly or wrongly—and, despite much loud protesting and noisy demonstrating, we believe wrongly—Mr. CHAMBERLAIN has persuaded himself that the Liberal voters will go solid in England for Disestablishment, but in Scotland he is not so sure of his ground. He is, therefore, unwilling to divide the party by making it too important a part in the programme. In fact, when in Scotland he imitates the numerous weak-kneed brethren who, in reply to the inquiries of the *Record*, announce that they are in favour of Disestablishment "if it is adopted "by the Liberal party." But seeing that he is a leader of that party, his followers, and especially those of them who are candidates for Scotch seats, are rather badly treated in being left without guidance by their political director. When heckled by their electors they will not be able, like Mr. CHAMBERLAIN at Glasgow,

Spargere voces
In vulgo ambiguas et quærere conscius arma

on the subject of Disestablishment in Scotland. As English Churchmen we cannot be expected to feel very strongly on that subject, for reasons which we have given above in dwelling on the difference between the position and the motives of the advocates and the opponents of Disestablishment in general, whatever our opinion may be as Conservatives. We cannot, for example, look at the downfall of the Kirk in the same light as the accomplished overthrow of part of the Church of England and Ireland, or the threatened assault on the other part of that Church. But viewing it as a prelude to that threatened assault and considering that even so unsatisfactory a form of Establishment as that in Scotland is better than an entire repudiation by the State of any religious obligations whatever, we think that the Disestablishment of the Kirk of Scotland will be *pessimi exempli*, and that it should be opposed by all Conservatives.

The rest of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN'S Glasgow speech showed, also, the moderating influence of Scotch air, and it might almost seem as if with the change of sky he had acquired some extra portion of the canniness which is supposed to flourish under it. He was less dogmatic in his tone; there was less of the Sir ORACLE, and a greater readiness to let dogs bark than in his previous utterances. But, when carefully examined, his speech contains just as much of the dangerous element, and if he is astonished at his own moderation it must rather be with the astonishment of the late Mr. PEACE than of Lord CLIVE. Progress and plunder continue to be associated together in his programme, and the American electioneering principle that the spoil is to the victors is introduced on a gigantic scale as a bribe to the electorate. In respect to Ireland he made a significant advance on his former programme, and he is evidently prepared to meet Mr. PARNELL far more than half way. Indeed, it is amusing to hear him virtuously complaining of Tory alliances with the uncrowned King of IRELAND while himself prepared to make to him concessions immeasurably beyond anything which any English statesman has yet proposed. As has been well pointed out by a contemporary, Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, who was last week in favour of National Councils, has this week declared himself in favour of something which it is very difficult to distinguish from National Parliaments. It is quite obvious that the separatists have more to gain from him than he was willing to allow, when, in the vain hope of throwing

discredit on the Tories, he was for once led to speak out to some extent like a loyal Englishman on the subject of Mr. PARNELL's claims. We were not ourselves so carried away as some of our comrades in arms by that unwonted exhibition, and pointed out at the time the limitations which hedged round his protest. But we were not prepared for such speedy evidence of the hollowness of that protest as is afforded by the Glasgow speech.

Though it may be augured from that speech that Disestablishment is not just at the present moment an essential feature of the Liberal programme, it will not do for Churchmen to rest quietly on their oars or indulge in any false confidence. We have seen with what rapid strides questions outside the range of practical politics bring themselves within that range when it is thought that their adoption is advisable for the sake of consolidating the Liberal party or furnishing a means of exciting "popular fervour." It is not, therefore, sufficient to rely upon Disestablishment being left an open question—we can hardly fancy its being so regarded by anyone who has the welfare of the nation at heart—nor ought Churchmen to support any candidate for Parliament who has not made up his mind about it. The statistics which our contemporary the *Record* has compiled are alarming enough in themselves; but the Liberation Society goes further, and maintains that they are below rather than above the truth in regard to the strength of the majority in favour of Disestablishment among the candidates at the coming General Election. We do not doubt that this majority is largely made up of men who are absolutely indifferent on the question—Liberal GALLIOS who care for none of these things, but think it safer if called upon for a profession of faith to declare against the Church, as the surer way to conciliate the opponents of it, especially as they can do so without running the risk of driving Liberal Churchmen into the ranks of their opponents. For the *Guardian* has spoken out clearly and explicitly this week, and, while vindicating its claim to orthodoxy by a kind of grudging admission that even Liberal Churchmen cannot be expected to vote for a Liberal candidate who "sticks to his "intention to take an active part in the attack "on the Church," goes on to dissuade Liberal Churchmen from voting against him. "*Amica* "*veritas magis amicus* GLADSTONE" has ever been the motto of our contemporary, and the mischief which has been done by this preference is incalculable. But we hardly thought that it would have been carried so far as has now been done, or that even the *Guardian* would have recommended Churchmen to stand by supinely and see members returned to Parliament pledged to overthrow the Church. Let us hope that Churchmen, Liberal as well as Conservatives, will take a truer view of their duty. We do not doubt that in the great majority of cases they will do so when they once realise that the crisis has arrived, and that they must choose between the Church and Mr. GLADSTONE. The great danger is that they should fail to realise this, and go on supporting Liberal candidates pledged to Disestablishment under the impression that it does not matter so long as no actual proposal to disestablish the Church is formally made. We trust that no rude awakening is in store for them, and that they will not find when too late that they have by their failure to oppose, if not by their active support, assisted in bringing about a great national misfortune and a great national sin. The Church is, indeed, above party, and there are many Liberal members who are supporters of the Church; but it is not a little significant that what is the exception on the Liberal side is the rule on the Conservative, and that the Conservatives are to a man against Disestablishment is surely a claim on their part to the support of Churchmen. Certainly, no hesitation should be felt by any Churchman in recording a vote against a candidate who, whatever his claims to support may be, "sticks to his intention to take an active part "in the attack on the Church."

Political utterances by leading statesmen have been numerous of late. Of Mr. GLADSTONE's Manifesto issued yesterday, we have written at length in our leading columns. On Thursday the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER and Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT made speeches of some importance. The former addressed a meeting at Cirencester in support of the candidature of Mr. DORINGTON, whose return for Stroud precipitated the dissolution which overthrew Mr. GLADSTONE's former Government. He dwelt upon the coming contest at the polling-booths as one of principles not of persons, and took the opportunity of speaking out strongly on the subjects of Mr. PARNELL and of Disestablishment. But we regret to find him coquetting with Church Reform, Local Government, and Peasant Proprietorship. These are vague and elastic phrases which may cover a great deal more than they seem to do, and it is of the utmost importance at the present time and in view of the approaching struggle that the policy of the Conservative Ministers in regard to such subjects should be like CÆSAR's wife.

Sir WILLIAM HARCOURT commenced his speech much like an elderly young lady who refers to herself as growing old in hopes that somebody will be found polite enough to contradict her. It is not very probable that in his heart he regards himself as "beginning to "decline upon the political horizon," though even if it were true we should not be inclined to consider it as the setting of a great political luminary, or as seriously affecting the welfare or the happiness of England. But while the sun of HARCOURT is yet in the sky it takes upon itself a new task to shed an aureole around the head of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN. Afraid of being classed among the RIP VAN WINKLES, he displayed the same enthusiasm for the member for Birmingham that he has at different times displayed for Mr. DISRAELI and Mr. GLADSTONE. We feel almost ashamed to devote any more space to Sir WILLIAM's latest ideal, but Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's correspondence with Mr. HANBURY is so characteristic of the great Radical leader that it ought not to pass without notice. It is the cue given to Radical papers to complain of the malignity of the wicked Tories who persist in persecuting and misrepresenting the innocent JOSEPH; and the *Daily News* is most emphatic in its utterances in this respect, consoling him with the reflection that he is only suffering as Mr. GLADSTONE and Mr. BRIGHT have done before. But when Mr. CHAMBERLAIN undertakes his own defence, he is apt to carry the war into the enemy's camp. In order to prove that he is misrepresented, he does not hesitate to misrepresent his alleged misrepresenters. This is a very effective weapon of political warfare, as Mr. BRIGHT—who, till the advent of Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, was perhaps the greatest master of it—has often proved. It is but natural that the Radical who aspires to be like Mr. BRIGHT, only more so, should develop his system in this direction as in others, and in his correspondence with Mr. HANBURY he has improved upon his father PARMENIDES. "You are "found out in a slander, and appear to know "it," is Mr. HANBURY's final word on the controversy, and all readers of the correspondence will agree that it sums accurately, if not very politely, the result. There is, however, some excuse for any want of politeness on Mr. HANBURY's part when we find Mr. CHAMBERLAIN insisting on imputing to him, on anonymous authority, statements which he positively denies, instead of meeting the statements which he actually made. But this course was at once easier and more congenial to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN, whose trustful reliance on authorities which appear favourable to him has not not been shaken by his unpleasant experience of perjured affidavits in reference to the Aston riots. He deals with them as DON QUIXOTE did with his helmet, the strength of which he prudently refused to try after its first break down, and, knowing they will not stand the test of investigation, prudently adopts them as correct without investigating them.

THE UMBRELLA OPENED.

Mr. GLADSTONE has spoken at last, and not a moment too soon for the convenience of his party, torn with dissensions between the leaders of rival sections. Mr. GLADSTONE's manifesto has long been anxiously looked for, and now that it has at last appeared there is very little that is noteworthy about it, in spite of its portentous length. For the most part it consists of vague generalities and vapid platitudes, from which it is absolutely impossible to extract any intelligent conception of what the writer's intention may be with respect to the leading questions of the day. With one special exception, of which we shall have something to say presently, Mr. GLADSTONE seems to lean rather to Lord HARTINGTON's view of Liberal policy than to Mr. CHAMBERLAIN's. This is specially apparent in his observations on the Land question, which fall far short of the bold and dashing schemes of confiscation and "ransom" propounded by the Leader of the Caucus. And there seems a particular significance in the passage in which allusion is made to "the fundamental principles which "make property secure" and which "form an "essential part of our liberties." As regards Free Education, again, Mr. GLADSTONE falls far short of the Chamberlainic standard. He "desires to reserve a final judgment" on the subject; but he speaks with approbation of the recognised rule "that nothing should be "done by the State which can be better or as "well done by voluntary effort;" and, further, he is "not aware that the work of the State "for education has as yet proved its superiority "to the work of the religious bodies, or of "philanthropic individuals." On the same point Mr. GLADSTONE looks forward to "an increased "jealousy of the introduction into schools of any "subject not strictly rudimentary;" and he perceives very clearly the difficulty of "asking "the entire population of Churchmen, Non-"conformists, and Roman Catholics to accept "one and the same scheme of religious instruc-"tion—above all, a scheme prescribed and "limited by the authority of the State."

Thus it will be seen that with regard to certain questions the Umbrella is carefully adapted to cover the Moderate Liberals. The RIP VAN WINKLE section is, after all, an important one, and is well worth conciliating. On other topics which are in all men's mouths the leader of one of the great political parties has absolutely nothing to say. His remarks on the Established Church and Local Government amount to just nothing at all; and though the passage relating to the House of Lords reads a little ominously, there is little to be gathered from it as to Mr. GLADSTONE's hopes or intentions on the subject. The part of the Manifesto most welcome, or least unwelcome, to the Forward school of Radicalism will probably be the paragraph on Ireland. After referring in a tone of placid satisfaction which even he cannot really feel to the happy removal of the grievances which had afflicted Ireland before and since the Union, Mr. GLADSTONE declares that "the "wants of Ireland have to be considered, as "well as her grievances;" and he proceeds to advocate, subject to the condition of "maintaining the supremacy of the Crown, the "unity of the Empire, and all the authority of "Parliament necessary for the conservation of "that unity," the granting to "portions" (why portions?) of Ireland "enlarged powers for "the management of their own affairs." The phraseology of this part of the manifesto is studiously vague and indefinite; but from its general tenour we take it to signify that Mr. GLADSTONE approves in the main of the proposals which Mr. CHAMBERLAIN recently made at the very moment when he was professing to repudiate the notion of Irish independence, but which if carried out would furnish Mr. PARNELL with a very effective engine for obtaining that independence.

It will be evident, therefore, that, as we have already remarked, there is very little in Mr. GLADSTONE's declaration to furnish the Liberal party with the cry of which it is so much in need. That Mr. GLADSTONE should be condemned to make a hazy and indefinite statement of policy in his misfortune rather than his fault. The Umbrella may be made of very thin and poor material; but it must above all things be large, so as to include everybody who wants to come beneath its shelter. As for the retrospective portion of Mr. GLADSTONE's manifesto, the most noteworthy passage in it is that on Egypt and the Soudan, which may be summed up in the one word, *Peccavi*. He admits not only that his Government may have "fallen into errors of judgment," but he "goes one step further," and confesses that they "committed serious errors, with cost of "treasure and precious lives." And this is the Minister who asks the British people to renew their confidence in him!

DISESTABLISHMENT IN ENGLAND.

The returns lately published by some of our contemporaries with regard to the opinions of the various Parliamentary candidates in Great Britain on the subject of Disestablishment are interesting, not perhaps because they tell us anything new as to the general attitude of political parties on that question, but chiefly on account of the discussion to which they have given rise among Liberal Churchmen. That the candidates representing the Tory party should form a solid phalanx in defence of the rights and property of the Church is a significant and gratifying fact. But we all knew before that the Church's most staunch and constant supporters were to be found in the Conservative ranks. The duty of supporting the Church has always been, and we trust will ever be, the first item of the Conservative programme. On the other hand, the attitude of the Liberals towards the Church is still in the main what it has always been. Out of about 580 Liberal candidates, more than 400, according to the *Record's* estimate, are in favour of Disestablishment; while the Liberation Society, which may be presumed to be in the confidence of many Radical gentlemen who refused information to the *Record*, even places the number at sixty higher, or at a total of more than 460. Thus it appears that an overwhelming majority—nearly eighty per cent.—of the Liberal candidates are avowedly hostile to the Church. We should, probably, however, be doing no real injustice to the Liberals if we were to assume that they all favour Disestablishment with the exception of those who have expressly repudiated it. Disestablishment, though Mr. GLADSTONE declares it has not yet "become a practical question," forms part of the general policy of their party, and in default of any information to the contrary, we have a right to suppose that the party's representatives follow the rule rather than the exception. Now, accepting even the optimist calculation of the *Guardian*, we find fewer than fifty Liberals confessedly opposed to Disestablishment; and from this it seems not unfair to draw the inference that the Disestablishment party really includes more than ninety-four per cent. of the Liberal candidates. Thus we arrive at the general conclusion that the Tories are actually unanimous in supporting the Church, while the Radicals are practically unanimous in their hostility to her.

As we have said, the most interesting feature of the discussion concerning these returns is the process of heart-searching amongst Liberal Churchmen to which their publication has given rise. The course adopted by our contemporary the *Guardian* is, as might have been expected, equally instructive and amusing. With these figures before it, the *Guardian* finds itself of course unable to deny the obvious fact that the Liberal party is, as a whole, committed to Disestablishment, although it tries to minimise and conceal it as much as possible, partly by estimating at a much higher figure than any other authority has done the number of Liberals supporting the Church, and partly by drawing sundry fine distinctions between Liberals who refuse information and Liberals as to whom no information can be obtained—between Liberals who favour Disestablishment in one country and not in the other two, and Liberals who desire Disestablishment in two countries and not in the third, and so forth. But, after all this juggling with the figures, the unwelcome fact has still to be faced, that the Liberals in general are hostile to the Church, and the awkward question has still to be answered—What is the duty of a Liberal Churchman under these circumstances? And the answer that the *Guardian* gives to the inquiry is noteworthy. Men who place the interests of the Church above those of party would naturally suppose that it is the duty of all Churchmen alike to oppose the anti-Church party and to support the Church party—in other words, to vote against the Liberals and in favour of the Conservatives. But that is not the *Guardian's* advice at all. The oracle only declares that Liberal Churchmen should decline to vote for any candidate who will not give the pledge it suggests. The pledge is "simply that he will "not vote for Disestablishment in the next "Parliament." It is a pledge which, as we are reminded, "Mr. CHAMBERLAIN himself "might give without any sacrifice of principle." Supposing, however, that the required promise is not forthcoming, what course should the Liberal Churchman (who puts the Church first and politics after) adopt then? Of course—so it might have been thought—he ought to support the Church candidate, even if he happens to be a Conservative. "Not at all," however, says the *Guardian*; "your duty takes "you as far as refusing to vote for the "anti-Church Liberal, but it takes you no "farther. You are not bound to give your "vote to the man who is pledged to support "the Church, if he chances to be a Conserva-"tive." And this is duty! This is placing the Church first, and party politics second! The Liberal Churchman is, if the worst comes to the worst, to abstain from voting, and leave the Church's friends and enemies to fight the battle out without his raising a finger to aid her cause. We remember the great Archdeacon of TAUNTON years ago begging to be informed what it was that the *Guardian* was supposed to "guard;" and the implied answer to the question is, we fear, as applicable now as it was then.

We shall not think so badly of Liberal Churchmen—or at least of the majority of them—as to imagine that they will listen for a moment to counsel like this. Some Liberal Churchmen there are who, no doubt, desire Disestablishment, because they think it would

be for the benefit of the Church that she should be disestablished. It is not to them that we address ourselves. We respect their motives, although we differ from their opinions. But we refuse to believe that the great body of Liberal Churchmen—men who are strongly of opinion that Disestablishment would be a blow aimed at the interests of Religion—will hesitate to accord their support even to the Conservatives, if such a course seems to promise better for the welfare of the Church. They are Churchmen first and Liberals afterwards, and their first care will be to secure the return to power of that party in the State which makes Church defence its principal watchword. Besides, Disestablishment is not the only Church question now to the fore. There is the critical position of Religious Education, as to which we have written at length elsewhere; there is the threatened attack on the Marriage Law; and there is the open adhesion of many leading members of the Radical party to the essentially anti-Christian principles of Socialism. All these issues will help to determine the political attitude of Churchmen, whether Liberal or Conservative, at the coming General Election; and we are much mistaken if they will surrender themselves to the guidance, or be deceived by the idle sophistries, of Radical wirepullers and Gladstonian journalists.

DISESTABLISHMENT IN SCOTLAND.

What ought to be the attitude of English Churchmen towards the question of Disestablishment in Scotland? That is a question which it is difficult to answer offhand, and as to which there is something to be said on both sides. Disestablishment in England is, as the Bishop of Aberdeen remarked the other day, a wholly different question from Disestablishment in Scotland. The circumstances under which the Church finds itself established in England are essentially different from those which led to the establishment of Presbyterianism in Scotland. There is no point in the history of the English Church at which it can be affirmed that she was established by the State. She acquired her position, as Dr. Douglas has pointed out, before England became a nation at all. And, with respect to her endowments, she has received them entirely by private benefactions, and not from the State at all. The English Church is the most ancient institution in the country, and for the State to touch her property would be an unwarrantable interference with that which never belonged to the State—quite as unwarrantable as needless interference with the rights of private property. The State never bestowed endowments on the English Church, and it can possess no moral claim to take away what it never gave. Even if it were otherwise—even if there could exist the flimsiest shadow of a pretence that the ancient endowments of the Church were a legitimate object of State interference, we should still have the right to plead that the enormous sums spent by the Church on the education of the poor are quite equal to, if they do not even exceed, the value of her ancient endowments. The Church in England, therefore, owes nothing to the State. On the contrary, the Church makes every year a magnificent contribution to the State in the shape of the money she spends on the education of an enormous majority of the children of the poor throughout the country.

With the Scottish Establishment the case is entirely different. It presents, indeed, a complete contrast to that of the English Establishment. So far from being the ancient Church of the nation, the Established Kirk in Scotland was a brand-new body created afresh three hundred years ago. So far, too, from there being any question as to depriving it of its original endowments, the ancient property which it now holds it has only possessed for a couple of hundred years, and of right belongs, not to it, but to the true Church of the country, the poor, persecuted, almost annihilated Church now called Episcopal. And, once more, so far from the Establishment in Scotland enjoying this ancient ecclesiastical property by virtue of private benefactions, it acquired the whole of it from the State. As the Bishop of Aberdeen remarks with great force, "In Scotland you "can point to the year when and the Acts of "Parliament by which those who had previously dissented from the Church were "declared to be the Church of Scotland as by law "established." Presbyterianism as an Establishment is purely the creature of Parliament. Parliament under Dutch William made it for political purposes, and Parliament may, for political purposes, undoubtedly unmake it by repealing the Acts which constituted Presbyterianism an Establishment. Therefore the two cases of the English and the Scottish Establishments rest on two entirely different and distinct footings—so much so, indeed, that there is (at least theoretically) an inconsistency, as Dr. Douglas observes, in a man defending both the Church in England and also those who ejected and despoiled the Church in Scotland. In the eyes of English Churchmen the true Church of Scotland, the inheritor of the rights as she is of the Faith and Practice of the ancient Church, is the Episcopal Church, that was wickedly despoiled and cruelly hunted down by Dutch William and the Hanoverian dynasty that succeeded him.

And yet, while admitting all this, we are nevertheless as English Churchmen and Tories wholly and entirely in favour of supporting the existing Scottish Establishment at the present time. In the first place, there is unhappily no question in these days of restoring to their rightful owner, the Episcopal Church, the endowments of which she was robbed at the Revolution. The issue is between secularising the endowments and leaving them to the Presbyterians; and, as Christians, we can have no hesitation in preferring the maintenance and the extension of a Christian denomination, which, though it has lost very much of Catholic Belief and Practice, still retains also very much of both. The remedy for the Church's ills and for the unhappy divisions that exist among Christians is not to pull down, but to build up. Our policy should be one, not of Destruction, but of Construction. Therefore English Conservatives can never be any party to robbing the Presbyterian Establishment of that which she possesses, even though she may hold it by a title far less indefeasible than that upon which the tenure of Church property rests in England. Whatever iniquities may have been perpetrated two hundred years ago, the state of the case in our own day is that these possessions are held by a Christian body and administered for Christian ends; and we are prepared to resist any attempt to divert these endowments to secular uses. But, besides this argument, there is another of very great weight, which is of itself entirely conclusive as to the monstrous injustice of the Disestablishment proposals. The Presbyterian Establishment, like the English Church, has in recent times acquired a large number of new buildings and endowments from private benefactions. To confiscate these would be simple robbery. Yet this is what Mr. Dick Peddie and his allies propose to do. The endowments of the living generation are to be sacrificed along with those of more ancient times. Such a preposterous attack on the rights of property should be stoutly and strenuously resisted by the united efforts of the Conservative party both in Scotland and England.

THE SCHOOL BOARD ELECTIONS.

It is to be feared that the absorbing interest of the coming Parliamentary struggle may divert public attention from another subject of the gravest moment. The importance which attaches to the next School Board elections can hardly be exaggerated. Mr. Chamberlain has already placed Free Education in a most prominent position in his political programme. If Free Education should ever be sanctioned by the Legislature, the fate of the Voluntary Schools will be sealed, and a vast stride will have been made towards the attainment of the Socialist ideal. But although we have not yet arrived at the goal of Free Education, the evil principle which underlies the proposal is already at work in the existing School Board system. At the School Board contests of next November the electors will be called upon to decide, first, whether a middle-class education is to be provided at the public expense for the children of the working classes; and, secondly, whether those schools in which a definitely religious education is provided are to continue to be subjected to an unfair treatment that threatens their extinction. That, and nothing less, is the issue; and it cannot be too frequently or too urgently pointed out that if the work of elementary education is to proceed upon a sensible and moderate basis, and if religious education is to be preserved, there must be a due supply of School Board candidates pledged to retrenchment and reform. But to have candidates ready to come forward is not enough. There must be a well-organised electoral campaign. The number of the candidates must be nicely adjusted to the strength of what we may call the moderate party; and, above all, the dreary and tiresome work of electioneering—the canvassing, the meetings, the circulars, the hunting up of apathetic voters, must be diligently gone through. The proverbial patience of Englishmen has hardly proved of advantage in this matter. Ratepayers, who grumble loudly enough in private, and who feel keenly the injustice of being forced to contribute largely every year for a school whose only object is to crush out the older school to which they have been accustomed to subscribe, yet on the voting day often take little or no pains to give effect to their convictions. Such a spirit is one indication among many of the dangers attending the future of English Democracy, of moderate men losing faith in their power, and staying away from the polls. We see the evil effects of a policy of abstention in every country in which there is universal suffrage. The moderate men shrug their shoulders and refuse to leave their work or their business for the polling-booth, on the ground that a single vote can have no sensible effect on the result; while a knot of noisy enthusiasts who can command a certain following triumph all along the line.

Few men, probably, who have the management of Voluntary Schools on their shoulders will think that we are overstating the case in saying that the answer to the question whether the Voluntary Schools shall or shall not be extinguished depends on the result of the School Board elections in the immediate future. The real wonder is that many of them have existed so long as they have done, and a still greater wonder that they should have been able to compete successfully with their State-pampered rivals. Let us look at the facts. Roughly speaking, no less than one-half of the income of the Board Schools is derived from the rates. The privilege which they enjoy of dipping their hands into the public purse knows no bounds. They can offer their schoolmasters an average salary of £253 per annum, and their schoolmistresses £176, as against the average Voluntary School payments of £152 for masters and £87 for mistresses. They can, by the help of some slight pecuniary aid from the friends of Secularist education, provide prizes and treats for their scholars, such as the Voluntary Schools, whose subscriptions have to go for necessaries, cannot afford. They can, out of the unlimited funds at their disposal, provide schoolrooms and educational appliances far superior to those which a Voluntary School can offer; and they can afford, in short, to give a middle-class education for low fees. They can thus bid for and obtain the attendance of a higher class of children than those for whom any State-supported education is necessary or desirable. The lower middle-class schools are ruined; their teachers are starving; while the children of the very poor crowd into schools mainly supported now, as before the passing of the Education Act, by voluntary subscriptions. The friends of non-religious education would make a desert rather than leave ground which they could not inhabit to be occupied by the Church; and, as matters stand, they have been completely successful. The establishment of Free Education would, of course, precipitate the destruction of the Voluntary Schools; but there needs no new Act, no change of policy, to accomplish that end. Things have only to go on as they have been doing for the last few years, and the sole surviving representatives of the once flourishing Voluntary system will be a few scattered and struggling Church Schools, supported by the local gentry, together with a small proportion of Roman Catholic Schools.

If this disastrous result is to be avoided, it will certainly not be by sitting still. A new policy, one of gradual but deliberate reversal of the ordinary School Board policy of middle-class education, extravagant expenditure, and high rates, must be formulated and pressed upon the notice of the electors. A warfare that is always defensive is seldom carried to a successful issue. The time must arrive when an attack is necessary to ensure safety; and a more favourable opportunity than the present could hardly occur for making a determined assault upon the enemy's positions. The first point to be attacked is the monstrous and cruel section of the Education Act* which prevents schools from receiving a grant of more than 17s. 6d. per child in average attendance when the amount of subscriptions and school-pence does not equal the grant. The cruelty of the thing is, that as the grant is not made till the subscription lists are closed, it is impossible for the managers to tell how much of the Government grant they are liable to lose owing to the subscription list falling short, by perhaps a pound or two, of the required sum. The effect of the provision is directly to discourage excellence in schools attended by the poorest children—the schools which are satisfactorily performing by voluntary efforts the hard task which the rate-supported Board schools were intended to accomplish. For ourselves, we are entirely in favour of Cardinal Manning's proposal that all efficient primary schools should alike partake of the assistance of the rates. We cannot now discuss the point in detail. But perhaps the main object to be attained at once is the creation of an independent controlling authority which may limit the rating power of the School Boards. Till this is done, all else will be useless. Let it be imagined what the consequences would be, if the Admiralty, the War Office, and other great spending departments of the Administration could each of them order the Chancellor of the Exchequer to find so much money, after the fashion of a School Board issuing its precept to a rating authority. The taxes would in a single year reach a point at which the whole country would be set in a blaze. Yet this vicious principle is endured without effective remonstrance in the case of School Boards, often composed as they are of mere enthusiastic doctrinaires; though we may venture to say that School Boards have wasted more money than any other great spending department in the State. All true friends of education ought, therefore, to insist on the establishment of some sort of control over School Board expenditure. Whatever action is taken should be taken promptly. We are aware of the disinclination of the National Society to assume any part in electioneering business; but we see no reason whatever why the Society should not at once initiate an effort to secure the co-operation of all the friends of the Voluntary system and the foes of School Board extravagance. By way of a beginning we would suggest the holding of a Conference to agree upon a common policy and to concert the necessary measures for carrying it into effect. This is no time for those who are at one in their opposition to School Board tyranny to hold aloof from each other; and we can conceive no subject upon which men holding such positions as those of the Archbishop of Canterbury and Cardinal Manning, for instance, may more fittingly take counsel together.

* Sec. 19, Sub-sec. 1, Article 114 of Code.

Reviews.

SOME REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

The *Contemporary* has a very lucid paper by the Bishop of Carlisle, entitled "Thoughts about "Life." The Bishop is always at his best in exposing the want of logic which is the most distinguishing characteristic of modern science and philosophy. Its professors seem to be ignorant of any such thing as the art of reasoning. When they have discovered, or think they have discovered, a fact in physical science or a moral principle, they fancy themselves entitled to draw inferences at their pleasure; and when better reasoners than themselves demur to their conclusions, they hold up their heads in contempt because they are scientists and philosophers, and ought to know best. This time it is Mr. Drummond's "interesting" book on *Natural Law in the Spiritual World*—the very title of which is utterly illogical—and Mr. Herbert Spencer's definition of Life, on which it is founded, that have set the Bishop a-thinking. He shows that our modern philosopher's elaborate definitions amount to this—that "life" is that which *lives*. "The circle is complete, and we are precisely in "the same condition of knowledge of life as that "in which we found ourselves before." Mr. Drummond is let off more easily than he deserves in the crushing exposure of his mighty master. The Bishop would render good service to his deluded readers by a fuller criticism of that marvellous farrago of Presbyterian and philosophical claptrap. After unmasking the emptiness of the pretenders, the Bishop suggests the simple definition that "life is the "potentiality (why not *power?*) of change, "action, or motion, without the intervention of "an external cause;" that is to say, of any *created* cause, for he goes on to show that the cause and origin of life are not to be found in nature, but in Revelation. "The opening of the "volume of Holy Scripture is essentially a "revelation of life. It is living creatures which "come into existence by the fiat of a living "Creator *vivum ex vivo*." In short, St. John enunciates a truer philosophy than Mr. Herbert Spencer when he says, "In Him was Life, "and the Life was the Light of men." It is a paper of singular depth and clearness, greatly superior to the ordinary contents of a monthly. Some other contributions have their value. Dr. Russell asks, "Why did we depose Ismail?" but hardly supplies the answer. He is clear enough that the removal of the Khedive was the first step in the disasters we have brought upon Egypt. He leaves us in no doubt that it was due to the French bondholders, whose interests were espoused by their Government in opposition to all international law. Lord Beaconsfield's Government acquiesced in the measure, and the Dual Control that followed, to prevent the French from pouncing on the

country for themselves after the fashion of Tunis, and events have shown that in this respect Lord Beaconsfield failed in his usual sagacity. But he was not permitted to work out the problem. In Mr. Gladstone's hands it could not but fail, but no one could have anticipated that even he could have conducted it to the stupendous disasters we have witnessed. Lord Beaconsfield would certainly not have bombarded Alexandria in the cause of the new Khedive, nor have destroyed his army to repress a military mutiny, nor have extinguished his government and dismembered his kingdom in loyalty to our alliance, nor have wasted British troops in *not* saving his garrisons, nor have sent Gordon alone and unaided to to do what we were afraid to do ourselves, nor have betrayed and abandoned him when we had made his success impossible. The magnificent failure of the Nile Expedition, the useless slaughter of Arab "patriots," the war without an enemy, the £100,000,000 Budget, and the absolute unmitigated defeat of every imaginable purpose, or want of purpose, are feats that could only be accomplished by a Government of Peace, Retrenchment, and Reform. Dr. Russell does not sufficiently distinguish between the two Administrations. Mrs. Fawcett and Miss Hopkins say all that can be said—and it is not convincing—in favour of speech rather than silence on the odious subject flaunted in the columns of the *Pall Mall Gazette*. Mr. Fuller's experience of "Penny Dinners" may be useful. We hardly think so of Mr. Marvin's "Short Plain Policy for "Afghanistan," or Mr. Salmon's "West African "Settlements," or Mr. Vernon Lee's "Dialogue "on Novels," or Professor Gneist's "Rural Ad-"ministration in Prussia," or Mr. Healy's "Advance towards Home Rule." Yet each has an interest in its way.

Two papers find their way into the *Nineteenth Century* that are somewhat out of place. Mr. Hubert Handley inquires "Why men will not be "Clergymen?" and answers—in a postscript—that it is because they do not understand the terms of the required subscription. This gentleman has been deterred from gratifying the desire of his heart by imagining that he was expected to commit himself on certain questions of science and Biblical criticism, on which he has not the knowledge necessary to a conclusion, and does not wish to be precluded from further information. How he could find such a condition in a general assent to the doctrine and discipline of the Church is not explained; but it is satisfactory to learn from the postscript that he has since learned from the published utterance of the highest ecclesiastical authorities that it is not there. That being so, the paper might have been put into the fire; but this is not the fashion. People write and talk now for the sake of writing; and when they are told there is nothing in it, they put it forward all the same in case anybody should happen to find something. Dr. Belcher, we fear, is almost as imprudent in mooting the question of the Reservation of the Sacrament. If he feels at liberty to do what he wants to do as the rubric stands, he is not wise in raising a discussion that may easily extend to what he disapproves. Earl Cowper's bewildered inquiry, What a Moderate Liberal is to do? receives the answer we should have expected. He is to stick to the Liberal party. So says Lord Hartington; and though Mr. Chamberlain calls them Rip Van Winkles, he will graciously allow them the privilege. Now that Mr. Gladstone has hoisted the expected umbrella they will all crowd under it; and Mr. Gladstone, in spite of his studiously moderate phrases, will find himself compelled to have Mr. Chamberlain on his right arm. Mr. Grenfell contributes some common sense on "The "Enclosure of Commons;" and Prince Halmi Pascha replies to his critics with a vigour and style very uncommon, we should think, from an Egyptian. "The Cholera Inoculation Fallacy" is disposed of by Dr. Willoughby; and Mr. Schutz Wilson contributes a too elaborately constructed review of "Vittoria Colonna." Lord Ducie's "Episode of the Armada" is worth reading; and we say nothing to the contrary of the other papers.

Blackwood is so little moved by the electoral campaign already raging, that it dispenses with its customary political article. Perhaps the Tory Nestor is waiting for Mr. Gladstone; but the omission of the salt leaves rather an insipid number. "The Crack of Doom" may develop into something better, as "Fortune's Wheel" has already done. "The Reminiscences of an Attaché" are not so promising. We much prefer the Scottish Dame on her travels. "Florida" is an elaborate description of an American State rising rapidly into favour for its delightful combination of climate, river, and forest—the State of Orange Groves. "The 'Orlando' of Bojardo" is a charming review of the kind that Maga and her readers love. "Chance Continental Acquaintances" supply the theme of a pleasant tourist paper. The last article—"England and France in Indo-"China"—insists on the danger threatening our trade from the chimerical attempt to erect a French Empire in the East. With Cambodia virtually French, Siam subjected to French influence, and Burmah alienated from England, we may find a second Afghanistan established on our Eastern frontier. Truly, the Russian and French friends whom Mr. Gladstone so prefers to all older allies seem desirous to act as the nutcrackers of our Indian Empire.

The *National Review* is a decidedly strong number. The opening article, on "Conservative "Prospects at the General Election," we have already noticed separately. Several of the other papers have a special bearing on the coming General Election. Mr. E. S. Hart shows very clearly the reasons why the Roman Catholic vote ought to be given to the Conservatives; and Mr. A. N. Cumming states the grounds upon which we may hope for an alliance between the adherents of the Scottish Establishment and the Conservatives. The statement that the "Scottish Com-"munion is not recognisable as a branch of "the Eucharist" is an odd way of stating that English Churchmen do not admit the existence among Presbyterians of any Sacrament save that of Baptism. Mr. Percy Greg questions Mr. Austin's conclusions as to the value of a seat in Parliament, which he still holds to be a worthy object of ambition. Mr. Kebbel concludes his admirable sketch of Sir Robert Peel, whom he maintains to have been, in all essential respects, a genuine Tory. The paper is of special interest as dealing with the relations between gentry and peasantry (so seriously disturbed by the passing of the Poor Law), Protestant ascendency in Ireland, the policy of the Tories towards the Roman Catholics, and the secularisation of Church property—all of them questions of first-rate importance in our own day. The anonymous "Political Colloquy" between a Democratic Tory, an Unphilosophical Radical, and a Patriotic Neutral is one of the most telling things of the kind we have ever met. It severely satirises the utter want of principle that characterises many of our politicians. M. Arminius Vambéry's account of his lecturing tour in England will be read with great interest, and it is satisfactory to hear that in his opinion "Eng-"land is fully alive to the importance of her "national standing in Asia, and Continental "scoffers will find that they have greatly "underrated the strength and power of the "nation of shopkeepers." Commander Lovett Cameron sketches out the future of the Soudan, which he considers must be definitely severed from Egypt. Among the remaining articles are one by Mr. Vernon Lee on "The Value of "the Ideal," and a vivid account by Mr. Gallenga of a terrible tragedy enacted three hundred years ago by Ranuccio Farnese, Duke of Parma. We must not omit to commend Mr. Reynolds's sensible article on "Road Repair: its Wastefulness "and Inefficiency." He mercilessly exposes the shameful incompetency in most places of the authorities entrusted with this important duty of road repair, and suggests what are obviously the right remedies. The landowners and farmers who clamour for relief against the rates should bestir themselves to effect a reform which would save millions annually.

Macmillan also abjures politics so far as to omit its usual Review of the Month. Mrs. Ritchie continues her uneventful story of "Mrs. Dymond." "The Windward Islands" are the subject of a discussion somewhat in excess of the interest attaching to those ill-used possessions. Emancipation and Free Trade have ruined the West Indies, and England is in no mind to listen to their complaints. The question of "Drink in England" is not much elucidated by a paper defending beer and public houses, but suggesting that they should be replaced by places of higher entertainment, where beer would be no longer in request. Miss Janet Ross describes "The Baths of Casciana" in July. "Local University Colleges"—a grandiloquent appellation for the various educational institutions which are neither Universities nor Colleges—are shown to be of a miscellaneous character, performing the most incongruous duties, and in a decidedly chaotic state. The evil will not be remedied till the English people come to the rescue in a way of which the writer seems not to have the vaguest conception. A paper on "Rural Roads" has nothing about the roads, their condition, or the means of improving them, which are matters of considerable interest. The writer only describes a drive from Hampshire into Lincolnshire, in which he discovered that rural roads are little frequented, and the population is fast migrating into the towns. Some account of "The New National Gallery at Amsterdam" and an interesting paper on "Inland Duties and Taxa-"tion" conclude the number.

In the September *Century* we miss the capital story by Mr. Howells which came to an end in the previous number. "The Rise of Silas Lapham" leaves a decided blank, and we do not care so much for the work of Mr. Howells' fellow novelist, "The Bostonians," which is still running its course. Our favourite among the contents of this present *Century* is the charming paper on Siena which has been contributed by the first-named writer, and the illustrations to it are very effective. It will, we hope, with the "Florentine "Mosaics" which have appeared in previous numbers, furnish a fresh addition to the delightful series of little pocket-volumes for which we are indebted to Mr. Howells. Next to this we are inclined to rank the paper entitled "Among the "Red Roofs of Sussex," which is so admirably illustrated, and shows both artist and author at their best. Mr. Cable, in his article on the "Silent South," continues the controversy originated by the publication in the pages of the *Century* of "The Freeman's Case in Equity," and Mrs. Harrison illustrates in her touching and effective story "Crow's Nest" some of the more picturesque aspects of the great contest between North and South, which, not without reason, claims so prominent a place in all American literature. The graver aspects of that contest are being worked out in the *Century*, and a distinguishing feature of the September as of the previous numbers is the contribution which it furnishes to the military history of the war. It is probably the first time in history that those who have borne a prominent part both on the one side and the other in a struggle to the death have contributed to the same periodical their personal experiences of the conflict, and the historian of the great American Civil War will find an ample store of material collected for him in the *Century*. The most important contribution to that history in the present number is the sketch of the siege of Vicksburg, from the pen of General Grant himself; and it is curious to compare with his narrative of the military operations of the besiegers the record of the personal experiences of the besieged, which is given in a woman's diary, to which Mr. Cable has prefixed a prefatory notice. An admirable portrait of the General himself forms the frontispiece of the present number, and the *facsimiles* given of his "unconditional surrender" summons and of his official report of Lee's surrender are of great interest. We must not omit, amid this din of war, to notice Mr. Stedman's concluding paper on American poetry, which under the title of "The Twilight of the Poets," talks in somewhat exaggerated terms of a number of minor poetasters unknown even by name on this side of the Atlantic.

St. Nicholas, like the *Century*, comes to us from the other side of the Atlantic, being the production of the same enterprising publishers, and it also is introduced to English readers by Messrs. F. Warne and Co. In it the *Century* company do the same good work for the young folk which the larger periodical, from which they take their name, does for the elders, and *St. Nicholas* is as emphatically *the* boy's and girl's magazine for America as the *Century* is the man's and woman's. The Saint has also succeeded in gathering a large *clientèle* on this side of the Atlantic, and those who are in search of a good periodical for their children should not overlook his claims. There is a good deal which is distinctively American about him both in his spelling and in the peculiar humour with which both letterpress and illustrations abound; but care is taken to prevent that humour from degenerating, as it so often does in work intended for elder readers, into anything that savours of vulgarity or profaneness, or into that free handling of sacred subjects which, though unintentionally, borders so closely on the latter in American literature. The contents of the September number are up to the usual level of excellence, and "The Owl, the Pussy "Cat, and the Little Boy" is irresistibly comic. Mr. Frank Stockton also contributes one of his amusing absurdities, and though there is nothing of Miss Alcott's, we are promised before long another story from that established favourite with the Saint's readers. One of the most interesting articles in the present number is that on "Spiders "of the Sea," a somewhat fantastic description of the crabs which supply the material for some curious anecdotes and some extraordinary pictures. "The Children of the Cold" tells us how the white explorers got on in Eskimoland during the winter passed in North Hudson's Bay, and the comical ballad of "Little Red Hen" supplies the page always devoted to the very little readers of *St. Nicholas*, who begin early and remain faithful students of him, till, to their regret, they outgrow his fascinations.

The *Antiquary* commences a series of "Notes on "London Wall," by Mr. J. E. Price, which promises to be of great interest. The paper has two illustrations. Mr. Alfred Beaver's article on "Native Painters under James I." includes notices of Hilliard, the two Bettes, Shute, Fryer, Oliver, Lockey, Peake, Larkin, Cuddington, Sir Nathaniel Bacon (an amateur), Greenbury, and other lesser lights. We entirely agree with the suggestion that a Winter Exhibition at the Royal Academy might be devoted to the illustration of this period of English art.

The editors of the *Boy's Own Paper* and the *Girl's Own Paper* cater well for their respective readers, and there is always something attractive and amusing to be found in these excellent periodicals, which emanate from the *Leisure Hour* office. The former is, perhaps, the more successful of the two as a whole, but it is easier to provide literary fare for boys than for girls. Neither the one nor the other is altogether as a rule happy in their illustrations, and we feel this the more when we take them up after looking through *St. Nicholas*. But we must bear in mind the difference of price, and for youthful subscribers there is a good deal of difference between sixpence and a shilling. The most distinctive features of the *Boy's Own Paper* for September are the interesting frontispiece, showing the comparative heights of the most famous buildings in the world, and the very stirring tiger tales; while the articles which we would single out for special commendation in the *Girl's Own Paper* are those on "Girl Life in the "Black Forest" and on the "National Gallery," and Mr. Whymper's graphic account of "Lady "Ann Blunt's Travels."

Perhaps a fairer comparison may be drawn between *St. Nicholas* and the next magazine on our list, than between *St. Nicholas* and the two which we have just noticed. That magazine is Messrs. Cassell's ever-popular *Little Folks*. This is too-established a favourite to need commendation at our hands, and is quite indispensable to every well-regulated household where there are children. The wood-engravings are often very good, though we must with reluctance own that they do not, as a rule, equal those in the American periodical. But for English boys and girls we are inclined to think that its thoroughly English tone will make it a more general favourite, and the number for September is fully up to the mark. There is matter in it to suit all tastes, from the scientific paper on "Volcanoes" to the fairy tale of "Dolly Dobstick."

The Lost Voice is the title of a very striking song in B minor, just published by the Medical Battery Company. The words, which have been written by Percy G. Mocatta, convey a humorous but well-merited tribute of praise to the remarkable power produced by Dr. Carter Moffat's "Ammoniaphone." The music, by Alfred Allen, is lively, and will doubtless become very popular.

The nine sensational stories which find a place in the volume issued under the title of *The Stockbroker's Wife* (J. and R. Maxwell) are from the pen of Bracebridge Hemyng. They are exceedingly clever, and will serve to wile away pleasantly many a half-hour during a long journey.

A useful biological hand-list of all the "literary "productions emanating from either side in the "so-called Jewish Question under its Protean "aspect in Europe and America during the "decade 1875-1884" has been compiled by Joseph Jacobs, B.A., and published by Trübner and Co. The list contains no less than 1,230 items in various languages, and is evidently the outcome of much tedious research, which will be duly appreciated by those interested in the subject.

It is claimed for the *Concise Guide to London* (J. and R. Maxwell) that by its aid any place or object of interest in London can be found easily and without loss of time. We must certainly justify the claim, for the work appears to us to be in every way complete as a guide. It gives in alphabetical order, in clear bold type the various roads, streets, squares, crescents, public buildings, clubs, cafés, cemeteries, residences of the nobility, &c., and a perfect budget of useful information. There is a very clearly printed map, divided into one-mile squares and circles.

LITERARY AND OTHER NOTES.

The Rev. J. E. Rudd, Rector of Covenham St. Mary, writes:—"Viel Frost und Schnee im Oktober deutet auf milde Witterung im Winter. The ensuing month of October will open with cold, wet, and stormy weather. The temperature will be very cold between the 1st and 18th, and the weather at intervals wet and stormy. The little summer will fall between the 22nd and 30th; the 13th and 29th will be stormy days; the 16th and 17th will be exceptionally cold and stormy."

The Queen has been pleased to confer a Civil List pension of £75 a year on the Rev. J. Inches Hillocks author of *Hard Battles for Life and Usefulness*. Twenty-five years ago Her Majesty was pleased to pay marked attention to Mr. Hillocks and his efforts. In 1860 she was so interested in his prize autobiography, entitled *Life Story*, that she directed inquiries to be made respecting the author. These were "perfectly satisfactory," and Her Majesty, through her secretary, Sir C. B. Phipps, forwarded to Mr. Hillocks a cheque as a mark of Her Majesty's appreciation.

The *Journal* of the Franklin Institute for September contains a memoir by Dr. P. H. van der Weyde, "On a New System of Telegraphy to and from Moving Trains by the Use of Electric Induction." The advantages of this system are that every stationmaster knows always where the trains are in the section under his control, and can stop or start the train at any time, while the guard can at once report any accident to the stations.

The Duke of Norfolk is beginning the "restoration" of the ancient choir at Arundel, generally called the FitzAlan Chapel. The part now undertaken is the wood vaulted ceiling, most of which fell in the eighteenth century. Mr. Buckler is the architect.

Professor Vambéry has published *An Uzbeg* (Tartar) *Epic*, which treats the career of the famous Uzbeg warrior and conqueror of Central Asia in the beginning of the sixteenth century, who drove Baber out of the country north of the Oxus, and was the chief cause of the foundation of the Mogol empire of India. The epic consists of 4,900 double verses, which the professor copied from the only existing MS., which is in the possession of the Emperor of Austria. The text is accompanied by a translation and annotations, and is brought out at the professor's expense.

The *Fireside News* for September 25 will contain an article on "Plain Words about the Disestablishment and Disendowment of the Church of England," and also several papers on Church Defence.

We understand that Messrs. Hatchard have made arrangements with Messrs. George Routledge and Sons to take over the publication of *Every Girl's Magazine*, from the 1st October, 1885. This excellent magazine will in its leading features remain what it has always been, viz.: a secular monthly magazine designed for the reading of girls between the ages of about twelve and twenty years, and will remain under the very able editorship of Miss Alicia Amy Leith, who so fully understands the requirement of those for whose instruction and amusement this magazine was designed. A few alterations and many improvements will be apparent in the first number of the new volume, which will be issued on Oct. 1. Amongst them may be mentioned:—The substitution of chalk drawings in Bartolozzi red as frontispieces, in place of the present coloured plates: the first series representing the five senses, Hearing, Seeing, Taste, Touch, and Smell, by Miss Ethel King, reproduced in phototype by Edmund Evans. A new serial story by Catharine S. Macquoid will be commenced, also a second serial by the author of *The Antelier du Lys*, and a story in several parts by Sarah Tytler. There are many other items set down in the arrangements which will assuredly make the magazine a greater favourite even than it has hitherto been.

Mr. G. Manville Fenn is engaged in writing a new serial story for *Cassell's Saturday Journal*. It is to be entitled *The Affair Next Door*, and will be commenced in the first number of the new volume, published early in October.

At the Hereford Musical Festival, on Friday, Handel's *Messiah* was given. Details of its performance need not be given, though some explanation as to the allotment of the parts is requisite, and here there was an unlooked-for variation, in which all the principals took part. The Cathedral was crowded in every part. The collections at the doors

of the Cathedral after each oratorio, and which are handed over intact to the charity for the relief of clergy, widows, and orphans, were as follows:—Tuesday, £306 14s. 1d.; Wednesday morning, £165 15s. 11d.; Wednesday evening, £34 14s. 4d.; Thursday, £106 19s. 10d.; Friday, £166 12s. 0d. Among the donors last week were the following:—Lady Emily Foley, £50; Mr. J. D. Allcroft, £50; Madame Albani, £20; Mr. Evans and Mr. Biddulph, M.P., £10 each; Messrs. J. H. Arkwright, J. F. Symonds, T. Duckham, M.P., Sir Joseph Bailey, M.P., and the Hon. and Rev. B. L. S. Stanhope, £5 each. Besides these there were among the company at the Festival, Lord Bateman, Lady Lambert, the Earl and Countess of Chesterfield, Lady Victoria Howard, Lady Roberts, Lady Somerset, Lady Vincent, Viscount Hereford, the Hon. Spencer Lyttelton, Lady Alwyne Compton, Hon. and Rev. A. Hanbury, Lady Guise, Sir Henry James, M.P., Sir Harford Jones-Brydges, Rev. Sir George Cornwall, Mr. C. Rogers, M.P., Mr. Rankin, M.P., and Mr. Pulley, M.P., The numbers attending the performances of sacred music show a total of 7,260, against 5,957, in 1882.

A new and original drama, *Human Nature*, by Messrs. Henry Pettitt and Augustus Harris, was brought out at Drury Lane Theatre on Saturday evening. It presents us with the old story of the husband and wife separated by the evil machinations of a designing woman and an unscrupulous accomplice; kept apart by the indefatigable arts of a roguish lawyer, who has a direct interest in the death of their child; and finally reunited in that last scene in which the trials and vicissitudes of the worthy folk are brought at last to an end, and villainy is either cut off amidst the perils of its own evil enterprises, or led away handcuffed in charge of the police. But, mingling with these more or less familiar elements, there is really a great deal of invention. By the device of exhibiting the mother as deprived for the time of the right to the custody of her child through the operation of a decree *nisi*, an abundant source of pathetic interest is at once at the disposal of the dramatists. It is this conspiracy against the bright little child, followed by the hunting down of mother and child, that furnishes the substance of the second and third acts. There are several powerfully dramatic situations in the drama, in which the scenic effects are marvellously realistic—notably, that representing Trafalgar-square and the return of the Guards. This scene, in which Major Temple, mounted at the head of his men, passes through a roaring multitude of spectators, kept back by the energetic efforts of the police, is a really wonderful piece of stage realism. More artistic, however, is the "City in the Desert" and the relief by the English troops—a thoroughly well-studied and most effective picture. The "Zereba at Night," with the departure of Temple on his hazardous enterprise, is hardly less striking, though in a less bristling way. The characters were sustained by Miss Isabel Bateman, Mr. Henry Neville, Mr. J. Grahame, Mr. F. Thorne, Mr. Harry Nicholls, Miss E. Ormsby, Mr. Clynds, Miss M. Illington, Mr. R. C. Lyons, Miss L. Claremont, and Miss Amy M'Neill, all of whom acquitted themselves most satisfactorily; and we may safely say that *Human Nature* may be confidently classed among the most successful plays produced under Mr. Harris's management.

The one-hundredth uninterrupted representation of the ballet *Excelsior*, which has furnished the main attraction at Her Majesty's Theatre, was given on Tuesday, when some special features worthy of particular note were introduced. Among others Signorina Limido danced a Highland reel with spirit and effect in the costume presented to her at Malta by the officers of the 53rd Regiment, and the Roman Ciocciara, which has never before been seen in England, was danced in the characteristic costume by Signora and Signor Cecchetti, and excited great applause, as much for its own droll and yet graceful movements as for the charm with which they were rendered by the accomplished dancers. Between the acts the young Italian pianist, Signorina Luziani, played some pianoforte solos.

The autumn season at the Vaudeville Theatre was opened on Saturday evening, when the performance of Mr. J. P. Hurst's successful farcical comedy of *Loose Tiles* was resumed after an interruption caused only by the brief summer recess.

MR. GLADSTONE'S ELECTORAL MANIFESTO.

Mr. Gladstone has issued an address to the electors of Midlothian, in which he "submits" himself for re-election. The manifesto, which is dated from Hawarden Castle, the 17th of September, is divided into twenty paragraphs, in which Mr. Gladstone glances briefly at the various topics of foreign and domestic policy. Mr. Gladstone having enumerated the legislative measures of the past session, proceeds to speak of arrears of legislation, and then goes on to deal with questions of foreign policy, and contrasts the condition of affairs in 1879-80 with that in which they now are. Having noticed the cessions of territory to Montenegro and Greece under the Treaty of Berlin, he proceeds to the question of India and Afghanistan. He says:—"There has arisen a controversy with Russia involving the security of the Indian frontier, for which no particular Administration or party is responsible. We shall, as I trust, prosecute that controversy in the interest and with the assistance of the Afghan ruler and people to a happy issue." In India a law "passed with indecent haste, which placed the freedom of her native press at the mercy of the Government," has been repealed, and native powers have been in other respects enlarged by "the wise policy of Lord Ripon," than whom every expression of Indian opinion proves that no Viceroy has been more able or more effectually laboured to cement the union between India and the British Crown." In South Africa Mr. Gladstone says "we pursued a policy that has left the Transvaal free and divested of all hostility and averted a war of European and Christian races throughout the South African States which would have been alike menacing to our power and scandalous in the face of civilisation and Christendom." Turning to Egypt, Mr. Gladstone goes on to justify at length his policy in that country, every step in which, he says, down to the time of the operations against Arabi Pasha in 1882, was the direct consequence of the agreement with France, concluded in 1870, before our accession to office." The French Government rejected the proposal to take part in military measures; but the paramount interest of England compelled the Government to re-establish the power of the Khedive. Just when there was a prospect of evacuating the country the war in the Soudan broke out, and it was necessary to take measures to prevent the extension of the disturbances:—

We insisted upon its evacuation by Egypt, and we offered aid towards the withdrawal of the garrisons by peaceful means. Lord Hartington has lately and justly stated in general terms that he is not disposed to deny our having fallen into errors of judgment. I will go one step further and admit that we have committed such errors, and serious errors too, with cost of treasure and precious lives in the Soudan. For none of these errors were we rebuked by the voice of the Opposition. We were only rebuked, and that incessantly, because we did not commit them with precipitation, and because we did not commit other errors greater still. Our mistakes in the Soudan I cannot now state in detail; the task belongs to history. Our responsibility for them cannot be questioned. Yet its character ought not to be misapprehended. In such a task miscarriages were inevitable. They are the proper and certain consequence of undertaking that war against nature, and lie beyond the scope of human means and of rational and prudent action, and the first authors of these undertakings are the real makers of the mischief.

As to future policy, Mr. Gladstone desires to express, in terms if possible still stronger and clearer than those he has used in Parliament, an earnest aspiration for our entire withdrawal from Egyptian territory at the earliest moment which honour will permit. He adds:—

I do not doubt our power to continue this occupation for years and years to come without effectual hindrance, any more than I doubt the power of the possessors of great fortunes to waste them upon worthless purposes. When we shall have been set free from our irksome and thankless task we shall be restored to the admirable position in Europe of perfect independence and salutary influence which nothing but our own errors can put in jeopardy, an independence given us by the Almighty, and surpassing that of every other State, an influence which I trust will always be held subject to a cordial recognition of international equality, and will be exercised on every legitimate occasion in support of the position of the smaller States, of the infant liberties established in the East, and generally of rational freedom and of peace and public right.

Upon the question of public expenditure, Mr. Gladstone says that the surest road to economical administration and the best security against panic and excitement are to be found in a just and peaceful policy—foreign, Indian, and colonial. Mr. Gladstone next refers to a Parliamentary procedure. He is gratified to find abundant proof that the country is fully alive to the vital importance of devolution and generally of reform of procedure in the House of Commons, and he desires clearly to point out the three cardinal points of the question.

First, the congestion of business, now notorious and inveterate, degrades the House of Commons by placing it at the mercy of those among its members who seek for notoriety by obstructing business instead of pursuing the more honourable road to reputation by useful service, or of those who, with more semblance of warrant, seek to cripple the action of the House of Commons in order to force the acceptance of their own political projects. Secondly, it disappoints, irritates, and injures the country by the suspension of useful legislation. And, lastly, and perhaps worst of all, it defeats the fundamental rule of our Parliamentary system that the majority shall prevail, and puts it in the power of the minority to prevent, by unduly consuming the time of the House, the passing of measures which it dislikes, but of which it is afraid openly to declare its approval. This country will not in the full sense be a self-governing country until the machinery of the House of Commons is amended and its procedure reformed.

With reference to local government, Mr. Gladstone is not sure that the views of the country are so clear and its mind so fully ripened. He believes it, however, to lie at the root of all our liberties and of all our aptitudes.

It is the instrument of our public education, and it is the guarantee of our political stability. Even in its imperfect development it has been of inestimable value, and it may and should be made to do yet more for us in the future than what it has done for us in the past. In the reform of local government the first objects to be aimed at, in my judgment, are to rectify the balance of taxation as between real and personal property; to put an end to the gross injustice of charging upon labour through the medium of the Consolidated Fund local burdens which our laws have always wisely treated as incident to property, to relieve the ratepayer not at the charge of the working population, but wholly or mainly by marking over for local purposes carefully-chosen items of taxation, to supply local management with inducements to economy instead of tempting and almost forcing it into waste. Finally, and most of all, to render the system thoroughly representative and free.

It is through the medium of local government also that Mr. Gladstone thinks we may most reasonably look for an effectual adjustment of the laws relating to the sale of alcoholic liquors. Upon the land question Mr. Gladstone says:—

Belonging to a school which has much faith in economic laws I disapprove of interference with them by entails, to which I am still more opposed on social and moral grounds. My desire is both to maintain freedom of bequest and to establish freedom of possession as our future system, and also to deal freely with the transfer of the land, the registration of lands, the taxation of land during life, upon death, and the custom of primogeniture as it now exists in cases of intestacy. I shall rejoice if the means thus to be provided, or other means in themselves commendable shall lead to a close connection between the nation and the soil through a large extension in the number of those directly interested in its possession and its produce, but most of all in the proprietorship of their own dwellings. The balance of taxation as between moveable and immoveable property, and still more as between property and labour, should be carefully watched, and should be adjusted when occasion offers with a scrupulousness which was unhappily too little observed at the time when property had the absolute command of Parliamentary action. But as to the fundamental principles which make property secure, they will, I believe, be upheld among us, whether in the near or the more distant future, with the same courage and integrity as were our liberties, of which, indeed, they form an essential part.

The next two paragraphs of the manifesto deal with registration and the condition and structure of the Liberal party. That party, he believes, is firmly united, with a reasonable freedom as to details, upon the four legislative objects of moment just named, which have reached a state of maturity. They are in basis and spirit truly Liberal, yet they ought not to stir Conservatives to alarm. The work is ready, and the workmen, the Liberal candidates, await the commission to proceed which the constituencies alone can give.

Turning to ulterior subjects of legislation, as to which the foundations of discussion have already been laid, Mr. Gladstone touches first on the House of Lords. The best guarantee for the safe treatment of this important matter he recognises in the moderation and wisdom of the future conduct of the Lords. Since 1832 the Upper House has been continuously identified with the Tory party in the State, and few outside that party will maintain that its legislative action has on the whole been satisfactory. Mr. Gladstone cannot deny that there is a case to justify important change; but, while he holds with Burke that knowledge and virtue alone have an intrinsic right to govern, yet he admits that the influence of wealth and birth cannot but be recognised to a reasonable extent and under wise conditions in the reconstitution of the House of Peers. As regards the Established Church—

With respect to the severance of the Church of England from the State, I think it obvious that so vast a question cannot become practical until it shall have grown to the public mind by thorough discussion, with the further condition that the proposal, when thoroughly discussed, shall be approved. Neither, I think, can such a change arise in a country such as ours except with a large observance of the principles of equity and liberality as well as with the general consent of the nation. Those abridgments of the Church's prerogatives as an establishment which have been frequent of late years have not brought about a decrease, and have at least been contemporaneous with an increase, of her spiritual and social strength. The English Church also appears to be eminently suited in many and weighty points to the needs of the coming time. And I have a strong conviction that if this great modification of our inherited institutions shall hereafter be accomplished, the vitality of the Church of England will be found equal to all the needs of the occasion.

On the question of a gratuitous primary education to be paid for from sources wholly public Mr. Gladstone desires to reserve a final judgment. There are obvious arguments in favour of it; but it nevertheless suggests some difficulties that demand grave consideration. Having enumerated several of these difficulties, he admits that there may be modes of meeting all or some of them; but he holds that until such modes have been carefully weighed and not found wanting, it would be premature in him to endeavour to press forward generally the subject of gratuitous primary education. Passing to Ireland, he takes note of the improved means of making known Irish views and wishes on public affairs. He considers that we have arrived at an important epoch in the history of Ireland which it behoves us to meet in a temper of very serious and dispassionate reflection.

Mr. Gladstone refrains from all comment in detail upon the conduct of the Conservative party as an Opposition in the House of Commons, but declares that "it was so novel, and so ominous by way of precedent, as to oblige me briefly to observe that on many matters, and especially on many matters relating to foreign affairs, it supplied an example of everything which a high-minded Opposition should avoid." In conclusion he observes that much of what he has written refers to a future which, according to all expectation, lies beyond his reach. "Nevertheless, as it appears to me, the great occasion of choosing a Parliament entails the duty of preparation for contingencies which it may take long to develop, and it is to aid so far as I may in the fulfilment of this duty that I have thus submitted my views to your consideration."

THE CHURCH AND THE RADICALS.

Mr. J. H. Snowden, who was, he says, "born and bred a Liberal," writes:—

"It seems to me that there remains only one way of escape for Liberals if they would not eventually find themselves committed to Disestablishment, and that is to separate themselves at the present crisis determinately and avowedly from the Radical programme. Surely true Liberalism and Radicalism are at opposite poles; nevertheless, Radicalism is already jubilant with the prospect of making the Liberal party, as a consequence of the coming General Election, its servile henchman and catspaw. Much more has Liberalism to fear from Radicalism than from Conservatism; the latter it might without difficulty absorb, in the former it is in danger of being absorbed. It is impossible to exaggerate the important issues of the next election. Lord Rosebery truly tells us that from it 'we shall learn what is the true tendency of the constituent body with regard to pending political questions, of which Disestablishment, of course, is one.' Every vote given for, or not given against, a Disestablishment candidate will be a contribution to the Radical tendency. Be the cost what it may, Liberals, if they continue to exist as a great political influence, must now teach Radicals that they will not be made the instruments of revolutionary projects. In the *Spectator* of August 22 there appeared an excellent leading article, in which the writer stated that 'it is the laity who have to fear Disestablishment on behalf of the community at large,' and 'if the Liberal party were really to be called upon to choose between Establishment and Disestablishment of the Church, we should have no choice but to range ourselves for such a battle as that on the side which would be the side of the Conservatives.' No doubt; but it would be the side of true Liberalism nevertheless. If Liberals are not at the present moment being called upon actually to choose between the two, yet they are being called upon to decide to which tendency they will contribute their full force and encouragement."

Another Liberal, Dr. Lowe, says:—

"1. Some Disestablishment advocates are trying to effect a compromise with Churchmen, by reserving to themselves as candidates the right to vote in the next Parliament for Disestablishment in Wales, while expressing themselves willing to postpone the application of like action to England. This shift should be disallowed and rejected. The Church in Wales is an integral part of the Established Church of England. The Church in Wales by its activity is clearly not effete, and no one can contend that its increased vitality is injurious to the community. The Church, therefore, has not forfeited her Welsh inheritance of position and property, and to deprive her of it and the Principality would be as distinctly a partial Disestablishment of the Church of England as would be like action in the Province of York. Let it then be understood that Churchmen will resist piecemeal Disestablishment as vigorously as the more sweeping proposals of the Liberation Society, and that candidates must be prepared to exclude Disestablishment of the Church of England in whole or in part from their programme for the next Parliament.

"2. Let the proposal of the State free schools be dealt with in the same way. Until we are more fully informed, and have had time to be instructed otherwise, most Churchmen will think the social principle involved in State free schools more unsound, and its consequences more mischievous, than Disestablishment itself. Neither are we prepared, I presume, to imperil the millions which during this century have been invested in the Voluntary schools of the National Church."

"A Priest" writes as follows to the *Guardian*:—

"A is a Tory candidate who will maintain the Christian character of national politics and resist the despoiling of the Church; B, the Liberal candidate, is neutral on these points. What is a Liberal voter, who also happens to be a Churchman, to do? You, Sir, say, Vote for the latter. Vote, that is, for the man who will stand by and suffer God to be robbed, and not for the man with whom you disagree usually, but who will actively resist the proposed wrong. Nay, the advice I am speaking of goes further. If B, after all, sticks to his intention to take an active part in the attack on the Church, you leave it an open question whether a Churchman should vote against him or not. It is not, as I understand, contended that there are other matters at issue between the two parties which are more important to a Christian than the religious question. But the advice given is dictated by prudence. You think it a less evil that fewer members should be returned who will be actively friendly to the Church when she is assailed than that open war should be declared between the Church and the Liberal party. So long as there are in the Church camp men wearing the Liberal uniform, we have as it were hostages for a certain amount of forbearance from the main Liberal army; or, to invert the comparison, we are counselled to imitate the Jacobite chieftains, who, before taking arms, sent their eldest sons to join the Elector of Hanover. There is a certain canniness about this policy, but is it a right one? Where our Lord's honour is concerned, can mere abstention from the polls be the whole duty of a Churchman? Secondly, is it practicable to buy off the hostility of the coming Liberalism? Whether in the shape of vengeance or of mere dislike to the acknowledgment by the nation of the Catholic religion, the natural development of Liberal policy and principles must assuredly come to maturity sooner or later. Has conciliation ever helped us yet? Thirdly, even if the moderate Liberals consent for a time not to attack the Church, what security is there that the Radicals will not have a majority to themselves sooner or later? Directly that happens the blow you deprecate will fall. The argument would then require that a certain number of Churchmen should get into the Radical chariot in order to check its pace. The Conservatives, it is said, cannot always be in power. No, nor the Conservatives *plus* the religious Liberals. Events move very fast now. The policy so much in favour now of conciliating Liberalism seems not altogether just to those whose loyalty to the Church is never doubted. It seems to be argued, We are sure of the support of the Tories at any time; therefore we can treat them as cavalierly as we like. . . . Churchmen are so imposed upon by the commonplace about the Church being above party that they are over-careful, at any rate their leaders are over-careful, of speaking out about Liberalism and its tendencies; and so it has come about that the Church of England stands aloof like Meroz from the despairing struggle in which the whole Western Church is engaged."

On this the *Guardian* observes that "A Priest" has made a mistake. The *Guardian's* advice was the exact opposite of this. It had maintained that what is essential is that Liberal Churchmen should not vote for any candidate who has not expressly dissociated himself from the present Disestablishment agitation. Our contemporary had not advised Liberal Churchmen to vote, as a matter of course, for the Conservative candidate whenever the Liberal candidate has not expressly dissociated himself from the Disestablishment cry. If Liberal Churchmen, adds the *Guardian*, will at once make known to the candidates for whom they would naturally vote that they cannot support them except on the understanding that they will not vote for Disestablishment in the next Parliament, this great evil may yet be staved off.

Mr. Chamberlain, in the course of his speech at Glasgow on Tuesday, thus referred to the question of Disestablishment:—

"Now, I approach a question very delicate, very complicated, upon which, as in some sort a stranger, I desire to speak with all possible diffidence. But no one can have followed the course of political affairs in Scotland without being aware that you are threatened with a controversy which, unless it be wisely handled, may give an advantage to our opponents, and may seriously lessen the majority which we should otherwise obtain. The question of Disestablishment occupies——(Cheers, and cries of 'No, no,' and interruption, during which the chairman appealed for order.) I sympathise very much with those of the audience whom I see standing here to listen to me under circumstances, I am afraid, of considerable personal suffering, but I think they will shorten their painful experience if they will kindly be as quiet as possible, and allow me to proceed. I was saying that the question of Disestablishment in Scotland occupies a peculiar and, I think, not altogether satisfactory position. The leaders of the Liberal party, Mr. Gladstone and Lord Hartington, have both declared their readiness, without reference to personal feelings or anything in the nature of English prejudice, to deal with this subject as a Scottish matter, and as a question solely and entirely for the decision of the Scottish people. But while the leaders are waiting for a declaration of Scottish opinion, the candidates are waiting for some further declaration on the part of the leaders. The question appears to me to be of such great and serious importance that it

ought not to be treated as a shuttlecock between different parties in the country. I am an English Nonconformist, born and bred in Dissent, and opposed to anything in the nature of State interference with, or State aid to, religion. Now it seems to me the underlying principle of all Church establishments that it is the duty of the State to support some form of religion. Well, I think it follows from that that it must also be the duty of the State to take the responsibility of deciding what is the true form of religion, because I cannot conceive of anything more flagrantly immoral than that the secular authority should deliberately foster error. Now, gentlemen, such assumptions as these have been held in past times to justify religious persecution. To my mind, it is impossible to reconcile these things to the cardinal principles of our common Liberalism. If a man has the right to think out for himself his religious faith, to hold it, and to support it, he ought not to be either bribed or persecuted in order to relinquish it; and the State oversteps its proper field of duty, and trespasses on religious equality and religious freedom, when it singles out any form of religious belief for its care—or any religious organisation for its special patronage. And I would say, in addition to these considerations, that I think religion itself has always suffered by its connection with the State, and that no Church has ever existed in this position which has not lost something of its independence and its freedom when it became a department of the State. I would free the Church from State control, whether in England, in Scotland, or in Wales; and my opinion on the subject is undoubtedly strengthened by my belief that the appropriation to the service of a single section of funds which were originally designed for the benefit of the whole nation is an injustice. I hope to live to see the time when voluntary zeal will provide for religious work, and will set free those vast endowments which were originally intended, amongst other purposes, for the improvement of the condition of the poor and the education of the people, as well as for the special objects to which they have since been exclusively devoted. Well, gentlemen, you can judge on which side I should be if I happened to be a Scotch elector. But I adhere loyally and entirely to that declaration of Mr. Gladstone's that the opinions—although I arrive at it from a very different point of view—that the opinions of an English politician or statesman have little to do with this settlement of a purely Scottish question. It is for you, not for us, to decide. Well, how is your opinion to be made manifest? I can see that it is very natural that those who feel strongly on this subject on either side should seek to have representatives of the same opinion, and I think that wherever the majority of a constituency is clearly of one opinion, it is the duty of the minority to yield and to allow the opinion of the majority to prevail in the choice of a candidate; but at the same time, if I might venture to render advice to those who agree with me on the main issue—for I have no right to offer my advice to those who differ with me on this subject—I will say: Do not make this question under all circumstances an indispensable test and condition of your support. I think that the general drift of Scottish opinion will be made sufficiently manifest at the general election, and if there are some cases in which a candidate, who in every other respect would fully represent the constituency, is unable, on the ground of strong personal convictions, to bow to the opinion of the majority on this one point, I think you may well be content to respect his independence even though you differ from him. I have been told that there is a resolution of the General Assembly to the effect that all Liberal Churchmen should be invited absolutely to refuse their support under any circumstances to any candidate who is in favour of Disestablishment. Well, I can only say that that is a declaration of war; and if it were persisted in or generally adopted I do not see how Nonconformists could possibly refuse to take up the challenge. But I hope that such extreme counsels will not prevail, and that in view of the vast national interests which are at stake, and with the probability—I had almost said the certainty—that this great question will not receive its final solution in the next Parliament, I think that Liberals, whether Churchmen or Dissenters, may agree to unite in order to secure the application of Liberal principles for the more urgent and immediate work with which we shall be confronted. I do not want the Tories to profit by our divisions, and I sum up what I have to say to you on the subject in the words of your national poet:—

> Oh, let us not, like snarling tykes,
> In wrangling be divided,
> Till slap comes in an unco loon,
> And we are undecided."

The following address to Mr. Gladstone is being signed by Dissenting ministers in Scotland:—"Sir,—In view of the approaching general election, we, the undersigned ministers of religion in Scotland, feel that it is due to you that you should be told what in our judgment is the first great legislative step demanded by political justice as well as by national religion in this portion of the Empire. The history of the Church of Scotland and of our country has taught us that there are outstanding occasions in the providence of God when those who occupy our responsible position must make their voices to be heard in political life; and such a time has now arrived in the relations of Church and State in Scotland. It is felt by many of us that we have refrained far too long from taking up a resolute and urgent attitude on this long-ripe question; but we are all the more agreed now that there is no likelihood that any matter of so much importance to the Liberal party here, and to the peace and well-being of the country, can be brought before the coming Parliament as the claim that the unjust and injurious connection between the Established Church and the State shall at once come to an end. The Church of Christ in Scotland is broken to pieces; our immense Liberal majority is perplexed and demoralised; and a multitude of social and religious evils have long flowed from the present unhappy state of things. And therefore we, the undersigned Liberal clergy of Scotland, look to the great party in the State of which you are the illustrious head to make a speedy end of this religious scandal and political injustice. And we hereby pledge ourselves to do all that in us lies to support you, and those who work along with you, in carrying into law this indispensable measure of Liberal and enlightened statesmanship."

IN MEMORIAM—THE LATE PRESIDENT OF MAGDALEN COLLEGE.

It would be cause for regret if no further notice than the announcement of his death and burial were given of the late President of Magdalen. He filled a high office in one of Oxford's noblest foundations, and filled it worthily. He was buried on September 8th, at Marston Meysey, near Fairford, in which neighbourhood he resided during the vacations, and where he died. His burial within the walls of the college was in part prevented, owing to the strictness of the law, by the fact that he died without them. In addition to members and connections of his family, a very large number of members of the college and of the University—a hundred or more—were present at his grave, the Vice-President and many of the Fellows, ex-Fellows, chaplains, &c., and members of the choirs who chanted the Psalms, connecting the service, so far as was possible, with the college to which he and they belonged.

Dr. Frederic Bulley had been a member of Magdalen from July, 1825; so that "it is sixty years since" he was first admitted to the foundation of which he has been a member, and in constant residence, till, as it were, yesterday. No one, consequently, could be better known than he was. The third son of the late Mr. John Bulley, of Reading, and educated under Dr. Valpy, he became Demy in 1825 and Fellow in 1837; and, after serving the offices of Dean of Arts, Vice-President, Dean of Divinity, and College Tutor, was elected President in January, 1855, in the room of the late Dr. Routh, who had himself been elected in 1791, so that the time of office of the two last Presidents of Magdalen approaches 100 years. The great changes which have passed over Oxford and her Colleges by recent legislation have almost all taken place during Dr. Bulley's tenure of the presidentship. They had, indeed, just begun in Dr. Routh's time; for old as he was, he lent himself, so far as could be expected, to alterations which were more or less contrary to the current of his life and feelings, but which few will now deny to have been in many respects improvements. And Dr. Bulley was able only a few weeks since, in conversing with an illustrious member of the University, who had visited the college, to point to the fact that, where in his early days there were, perhaps, less than a score of undergraduates—demies, academical clerks, and gentlemen commoners included—there are now some 140. Thus he saw his college grow; and it may be said that by this constantly increasing number he was regarded with genuine respect and affection. He endeavoured, if any man ever did, to fulfil the duties of his high office. He was sensitive and particular respecting them. He was a good and careful man of business, was very just in his rule, invariably courteous, and remarkably forbearing and charitable in judgment. But the quality of art and life by which, we believe, he will be most feelingly remembered, was his constant and unvarying kindness. Dr. Bulley was a good scholar of the older school. He published, in 1842, *A Tabular View of the Varieties in the Communion and Baptismal Offices of the Church of England, from the Year 1549 to 1662; to which are added those of the Scotch Prayer-Book, published in 1637; with an Appendix illustrative of the Variations.* But, so far as we know, he gave nothing else to the world. In politics he was a decided Conservative; in religion he was a very firm Churchman, yet without a grain of bitterness towards those who differed from him in either. Wherever Magdalen men meet, and he is referred to, we are sure that there will be expressed the kindest memories and truest regret for their late Presisident.—*Guardian.*

Ecclesiastical.

PREFERMENTS AND APPOINTMENTS.

Rev. G. Bartle, to be Morning Preacher at Christ Church, Anzhton, Ormskirk.

Rev. S. E. Bartleet, Vicar of Brockworth, Gloucester, to Vicarage of St. Paul's, Preston. Patron, the Vicar of Preston.

Rev. F. Bedwell, to Vicarage of Caerleon. Patrons, the Dean and Chapter of Llandaff

Rev. P. Brent, to Vicarage of Downton.

Rev. J. J. Bryant, Vicar of Christ Church, Weston Point, Cheshire, to Vicarage of Lower Whitley, Great Budworth, Northwich.

Rev. H. F. Hall, to Rectory of Pylle.

Rev. J. Johnson, to Perpetual Curacy of All Saints', Clayton-le-Moors. Patrons, the Trustees.

Rev. T. Lea, Curate-in Charge of Lamport, to Vicarage of St. Lawrence's, Northampton. Patron, the Bisnop of Peterborough.

Rev. F. S. Lea, Rector of Tedstone Delamere, to be Prebendary of Pratum Majus in Hereford Cathedral. Patron, the Bishop.

Rev. G. Leighton, to Perpetual Curacy of Bispham. Patron, Mrs. A. M. A. Hesketh.

Rev. W. Moore, Curate of Horningsham, Kingston, to Rectory of Deverill. Patron, the Marquis of Bath.

Rev. J. P. Shepperd, Vicar of St. Thomas's, Preston, to Vicarage of Rookhope, Darlington.

Rev. W. J. Skilton, Rector of St. Andrew's, Romford, to Rectory of Baldock, Herts. Patron, the Bishop of St. Albans.

Rev. F. W. Vroom, Rector of Richmond, to Rectory of Shediac, in the Diocese of Fredericton.

Rev. A. E. Watson, Assistant Curate of Eastham, Cheshire, to be English Chaplain at St. Petersburg.

Rev. E. A. Were, Vicar of North Bradley, and Examining Chaplain to the Bishop of Southwell, to be Prebendary of Southwell Minster. Patron, the Bishop.

Rev. C. C. Williams, to Rectory of Llanvihangel, Ystern Llewern. Patron, the Bishop of Llandaff.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF BATH AND WELLS.—Revs. Michael Davey Lines, to South Petherton; James Walker, B.A., to Henlford.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF ROCHESTER.—Revs. Walter Atkins, M.A., to All Saints', Battersea-park; Cyril Travers Burgess, B.A., to St. Paul's, Wimbledon-park; Samuel Edward Chettoe, B.A., to Holy Trinity, Milton; Bennett Forster, to Christ Church, Milton; Hartigan Allen Stewart, M.A., T.C.D., to St. Peter's, Dulwich; William Paxton Thorp, to Reigate; Robert Wakeford, to Bermondsey.

LICENCES TO CURACIES BY THE BISHOP OF LLANDAFF.—Revs. David Francis, to Llwynpia; William Parry Thomas, to Itton; Hugh George Williams (Vicar of Radyr) to Whitchurch, Glamorganshire (Mr. Williams retains his Vicarage).

LICENCE TO CURACY BY THE HON. AND REV. CANON GORDON, GUARDIAN OF THE SPIRITUALITIES DURING THE VACANCY OF THE BISHOPRIC OF SALISBURY.—Rev. Robert [illegible]son Johnson, to Stourton Caundle.

OBITUARY.

Sept. 6, at 17, Cornwall-villas, Willes-road, the Rev. James Edward Hannum, B.A., LL.B.

Sept. 6, at Boddington Vicarage, the Rev. Philip Henry Phelp, M.A., aged 54.

Sept. 7, at Edinburgh, the Rev. John McArthur McMillan, aged 41.

Sept. 8, at Tottenham, the Rev. John Murray, of the Charterhouse, and formerly of Sidney Sussex College, Cambridge, aged 76.

Sept. 8, John Abraham Carter Squire, Vicar of Healey, Masham, Yorks, aged 62.

Sept. 9, at Hillesdon, Torquay, the Rev. Frederick Anson, Canon of Windsor, and formerly Rector of Sudbury, Derbyshire, aged 75.

Sept. 10, at Kingsdown Rectory, near Farningham, the Rev. Samuel Dewé, for forty-nine years Rector of Kingsdown, and formerly Minor Canon of Rochester, aged 89.

Sept. 10, at Dawlish, William James Pinwill, M.A., late Vicar of Horley-cum-Hornton, Oxton, aged 80.

Sept. 18, at Fairlawn, Cleygate, the Rev. Henry Ebenezer Richards, D.D., aged 66.

MISCELLANEOUS CHURCH INTELLIGENCE.

The Prince of Wales will to-day (Saturday) lay the foundation-stone of the English church to be erected at Copenhagen.

The Bishop of Gloucester and Bristol has returned from Switzerland, and on Thursday commenced diocesan work by consecrating the Church of St. Lawrence, Bristol.

Thursday being the third anniversary of the death of Dr. Pusey, there were several celebrations of the Holy Communion in the Oratory of Ascot Priory, in which he died. On Wednesday night vespers for the dead were sung, and a sermon preached by Father Black, of Cowley.

The *Guardian* says:—We regret to learn that the Bishop of Manchester is rather seriously unwell. The illness is the effect of overwork, and absolute rest and the cancelling of all engagements have been peremptorily enjoined. The Bishop hopes, however, to be able to hold his ordination—for which all the arrangements are made—on Sunday next, but the diocesan conference, fixed for next month, is put off till the spring, and arrangements are being made for some impending confirmations.

It is stated that the works in progress at the Church of the Annunciation at Chislehurst cannot be completed until Christmas, and therefore there will not be opening services until January. The south chapel, cloister, and choir vestry will not complete the church, as the massive tower and spire will yet have to be carried up from the first stage.

It is announced that the Right Rev. W. Marsden, who was appointed first Bishop of Bathurst, Australia, in 1869, has intimated his intention of resigning the see on account of ill health.

At the suggestion of the Hon. and Rev. Canon Legge, vicar of Lewisham, a church extension fund has recently been started for the purpose of raising £15,000 in five years. The Earl of Dartmouth has promised £1,000, and other liberal subscriptions have been received. It is proposed to build permanent churches at Catford, Hither-green, and Brockley. Major Forster has promised the site for the Catford building.

The Duke of Devonshire has given £500 towards the building fund of the new church at Edale, Chapel-en-le-Frith, the foundation stone of which was laid on May 22 by Lord Edward Cavendish, M.P. The church will, it is expected, cost about £2,500, nearly the whole of which has been subscribed.

The Hereford Diocesan Conference will meet at Ludlow on Tuesday and Wednesday, October 27 and 28.

The Lincoln Diocesan Conference will be held on Wednesday and Thursday, October 14 and 15, under the presidency of the Bishop.

The Southwell Diocesan Conference is fixed for October 13 and 14.

By the death of the Rev. Samuel Dewe, rector of Kingsdowne, near Farningham, Kent, one of the oldest beneficed clergymen of the Established Church has passed away. He died at Kingsdown Rectory on the 10th inst., in the 90th year of his age. Mr. Dewe graduated at St. John's College, Cambridge, taking his Bachelor's degree in 1818, and proceeding M.A. in due course. In 1836 he was instituted to the rectory of Kingsdown with Maplescomb, in the diocese of Rochester, which he held for a period of nearly half a century. Mr. Dewe formerly held a minor canonry in Rochester Cathedral. The living of Kingsdown is in the gift of the Dean and Chapter of Rochester, and is of the annual value of £420.

The Earl of Derby has restored the fine altar tomb in the parish church of Macclesfield, consisting of two recumbent figures of Sir John Savage and his wife Katherine, daughter of the first Lord Stanley of Knowsley.

An exquisite tablet, composed entirely of mosaics, has been placed by the officers of the 22nd Cheshire Regiment in Chester Cathedral, on which it is intended to inscribe the names of all officers who have died while serving in the regiment. Already there have been entered the names of eleven who have died since 1874.

It was discovered on Monday that the old parish church, Bromley, Kent, had been broken into, and that one collecting-box had been opened and the contents taken, and that another box, presumably owing to the difficulty in opening it, had been removed. Fortunately the vestry, where some valuables articles are kept, was locked.

The death of Dean Williams, who had been a great supporter of Bishop Colenso, and had been before the Colonial Courts in more than one trial, is announced from Grahamstown. His funeral was attended by thousands of people, and the route lined by Volunteers. Great excitement had been caused by Bishop Webb having forbidden one of his clergy to officiate, but it was explained that he had only refused to sanction a clergyman of the Church of South Africa entering the Cathedral.

It is proposed to hold a service of thanksgiving and intercession in Truro Cathedral on Wednesday, October 7. Holy Communion will be celebrated at twelve o'clock. The Bishop of Truro (Lis. Escop. Truro) will be glad to receive, before September 30, the names of any persons who were prayed for at the intercessions in the Cathedral during Lent, and who have safely returned to England, together with the names of any who are still, on account of the late war, in sickness or sorrow, and who desire the prayers of the Church.

Canon Trench, who was appointed to the vicarage of All Saints', Notting-hill, where the pew rents exceeded £600 a year, has, with the consent of the parishioners and pewholders, abolished them provided a lesser sum is guaranteed. The vicar having communicated the circumstance to the Bishop of London, his Lordship writes from Grasmere expressing his entire approval, but adds "I hope that you will make it clearly understood that the failure of the fund for the support of the clergy must be followed by the revival of seat rents. I do not myself object to seat rents provided the free seats occupy the best part of the church. Justice requires that people who like to secure their seat should be content with an inferior seat. But it is best that all seats should be free if we can afford it."

The Rev. H. R. Haweis will be in America in October, November, and December, on a visit to President White, of Cornell University, and Mr. Courtland Palmer, of New York. Mr. Haweis, a frequent lecturer at the Royal Institution, will deliver two sermons before the University of Cornell. He will then, between the 18th of October and the end of the month, be on a visit to Canon Ellegood at Montreal, and we understand he intends to lecture at Montreal and Quebec previous to his departure for Boston and Philadelphia, where he will deliver six lectures on "Music and Morals." On December 8 he will deliver a discourse before the Nineteenth Century Club, New York, at the special request of Mr. Courtland Palmer. And about the 17th of December he will return to England to conduct his annual series of Evenings for the People at St. James's Church, Marylebone. Mr. Haweis sails on the 24th inst.

Arrangements have now been concluded for the dedication of the English Church at Aix-les-Bains on St. Michael and All Angels'-day, the 29th inst., by Bishop Titcomb, coadjutor to the Bishop of London for Northern and Central Europe. The church was built by the late Sir Samuel Whalley and vested by him in the Colonial and Continental Church Society. Since Sir Samuel's death Lady Whalley has carried out many improvements in her husband's memory. It will be remembered that the Queen attended the services there during her Majesty's visit in April last.

The funeral of the Rev. Frederic Anson, Canon of Windsor, took place on Tuesday morning in the beautiful churchyard of Clewer. The body had been brought on Monday from Torquay, and was placed in the late Canon's residence in the cloisters at Windsor, where it was covered with choice flowers sent by the Bishop of Ripon and many other friends from a distance. The coffin of oak simply had the name and date of death on it, with the words, "Joy and peace in believing." There was a large congregation at the morning service at St. George's Chapel, which was draped in black, when the anthem was "The souls of the righteous," Elvey. After the service the body was brought through the cloisters to the western door of the chapel, where it was received by all the members of the chapter, with the exception of the venerable Lord Wriothesley Russell, whose infirmities prevented his attendance (the Dean had travelled all through the night from the north of Scotland), the minor canons, the choristers, and the military knights, who preceded it up the nave singing the opening sentences of the Burial Office to Croft's music. The 90th Psalm having been chanted, the hymn "The saints on earth and those above" was sung, after which the lesson was read by Canon the Hon. C. Leslie Courtenay, and the service in the chapel was concluded with the hymn "Now the labourer's task is o'er." The mourners were the Hon. Mrs. Anson, Miss Anson, Miss Adelaide Anson, Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Anson, Mr. G. E. Anson, Lieutenant Walter V. Anson, R.N., Mr. Arthur Anson, Lieutenant C. E. Anson, R.N., Mr. Ernest Anson, Mr. Harold Anson, Mr. Hugh Anson, Canon Hillyard, the Rev. Arthur Hillyard, and the Rev. T. Freer. The Queen was represented, and there was a large gathering of clergy and laity of all classes in the neighbourhood. As the body was borne down the nave the Dead March in "Saul" was played, and along the route to Clewer the shops were generally closed. The committal prayers of the Burial Office were said by members of the chapter, and round the grave, which was completely filled with flowers, stood the clergy and a group of devoted relatives and friends.

The annual Synod of the diocese of Glasgow and Galloway was held on the 9th inst. in St. Mary's, Glasgow. There was a good attendance of the clergy, but very few of the laity were present. The Bishop, whom it was a pleasure to see in the enjoyment at his age of such excellent health, referred in the course of his charge to the very successful attempt to commemorate by special observances the centenary of the consecration of Bishop Seabury. The mission at Stranraer had now arrived at a stage which appeared to offer every hope of some more permanent arrangement. During the year St. Mary's, Glasgow, and the chancel of Trinity Church, Paisley, had been consecrated. At Dumfries a handsome and commodious school had been erected at a cost of about £1,000. Accommodation for about 100 additional pupils had been afforded by the enlargement of the school at Ayr. The report of the inspectors of religious education indicated that this subject had received careful attention. The number of charges which had made statistical returns was fifty-three, an increase of one; of souls, 53,368, an increase of 349; of baptisms, 3,081, an increase of sixty-seven; of marriages, 349, an increase of 90; of burials 607, an increase of 25; of persons catechised 4,009, an increase of 295; of persons confirmed 882, an increase of 258; and of communicants 7,217, an increase of 241. There was also an increase of 308 in the accommodation for 2,359 children in weekday schools. The number on the books was 2,474, being an increase of 427. The average attendance at Sunday-schools was 3,449, being an increase of 257. The Bishop commenting on the statistics said they were all the more extraordinary when he remembered what the diocese was when he came to it in 1832. Then there were only two churches in Glasgow, one in Paisley, one in Greenock, one in Dumfries, one in Kelso, one in Peebles. Now they had fifty-six charges. In 1832 there were only six clergy in the diocese, he making the seventh incumbent. The Rev. Dr. Gordon, of St. Andrew's, Glasgow, drew attention to the subject of funeral reform, especially in the manufacture of coffins, in which he said he took an interest. The subject was, however, dropped without any practical result.

Writing in reply to a correspondent who stated in respect of the Revisers' mistranslation of that crucial passage Acts xv. 23, that they have on their side the rendering of the Vulgate *seniores fratres*, Canon Wayland Joyce says:—"So far from the Vulgate being on the side of the Revisers it is distinctly opposed to their novel translation. In this chapter the Vulgate has previously equated the words *presbyteri* and *seniores* four times as substantives,

verses, 2, 4, 6, 22. In the three latter cases the writer has employed the word *seniores* in its substantival sense as signifying 'presbyters.' Having done so in verse 22, the writer would surely never have turned it headlong into an adjective in the very next verse 23. That is a feat of scholarship which has been exclusively reserved for the Revisers themselves to accomplish, when dealing with the synonymous Greek word πρεσβύτερος in this passage. Under the circumstances antecedent, if the writer of the Vulgate had intended with the Revisers to exclude Presbyters from the superscription of the Encyclical Letter of the Council of Jerusalem, and to introduce Lay Elders in their place, he would surely have written either '*seniores fratrum*' or '*E fratribus seniores.*' The '*seniores fratres*' of the Vulgate are as plainly Apposition nominatives as the '*Fratres Helenæ lucida Sidera*' of Horace. The Revisers' own testimony to the fact of their mistranslation is absolutely crushing. They have convicted themselves beyond hope of reprieve. For while at Acts xv. 23 they have excluded Presbyters from the superscription of the Encyclical Letter, at Acts xxi. 25 they have by their own translation emphatically asserted that the Presbyters were among those who *wrote* that letter. And the last affirmation is true enough."

Criticising an assertion of Dr. Driver, with reference to the text, "until Shiloh come" (Gen. xlix. 10), to the effect that "Shiloh" as a personal name was "unknown in either Jewish or Christian circles till the sixteenth century," and was first seen under that character in the Latin version of Sebastian Münster (1534) Mr. H. T. Armfield writes:—"The influence of that version as the last new thing out in Europe at the date of the translation in Henry VIII.'s time can, no doubt, be traced in the English Scriptures; but it does not rule here. There surely can be no doubt that 'Shiloh' was known as a personal name in Jewish circles at the time of the Babylonian Talmud." After quoting *Sanhedrin* (98, 2), Mr. Armfield continues:—"The older Jewish literature is, so to speak, full of 'Shiloh' as a personal name of Messiah. In that greatest of all ancient Commentaries in Hebrew on the Pentateuch, the *Rabbah*, there is this observation on the clause (99, 2, 1):—'Till Shilo come: He Whose the kingdom is.' And then, by citing the text in Isaiah (xi. 10) it goes on to show that Messiah is to be understood. . . . But without enlarging further, R. Manasseh ben Israel gives quite a catena of passages in Israelitish literature prior to the sixteenth century where Shiloh is understood as a personal name, being taken not only for the Messiah, but also by certain Hebrew writers for Moses and for Ahijah the Shilonite. Next, the Oxford Professor refuses us the authority of the Targum of Onkelos. He says that Onkelos takes the clause in this form, 'Until He Whose (the kingdom is) shall come.' I cannot understand that assertion. Was it taken at first hand from the original Chaldee? At all events, I cannot verify it. To avoid mistakes I have taken down three separate editions of Onkelos in Chaldee (Basle, Warsaw, and Leghorn), and in all of them the Targum is the same. Translated it stands thus:—'Till Messiah come, Whose is the kingdom.' (The order of the first three words in Onkelos is preserved exactly as they are in the Hebrew.) Can anything be more reasonable than to suppose that Onkelos took 'Shiloh' for a personal name of Messiah?"

The Archbishop of York has written to the *Times* on the subject of the York churches, guarding himself against being supposed to have given any pledge. His Grace says:—"This is not a personal question, whatever pains may have been taken to make it so. By free consultation with the clergy and laity of York I have been able so far to carry them with me in a scheme which all think advantageous. I must decline to separate myself from them by any personal promise. I ought to be free to consult with them as to any future step. The want of clearness in my first letter has arisen thus. Being unaware that a personal turn would be given to the discussion, I gave my impression of what would happen, not in my own, perhaps, but in some future time. Four or five churches 'will be in the position of churches not required for the people; but it will be open to consideration whether they should be preserved by reason of their interesting architecture or the like.' After a good many years this will, no doubt, happen. When the condition of a church grows bad, the fact that it is not wanted by the people will check their activity for its preservation, and unless help shall come from without the church will not be restored. This is what I meant to convey. That has been construed into a personal promise or threat on my part, which was a historical speculation. It would be a pleasure to think it an error, but a decaying church must be restored from some source. You say I disclose myself 'at last' as taking the same view as Lord Percy. I have been denying, directly or through others, similar statements for some months past, as the file of the *York Herald* would show. The information given to Lord Percy I have given many weeks ago in a correspondence with the Free and Open Church Association, which went round the papers, and of which the *Times* published a short abstract; and I certainly did not expect to spend two precious days of a short holiday upon a matter of this kind, but I was compelled by circumstances which I need not explain. Meantime, the main object of the movement in York, in which I have received a general support that deserves my gratitude, is to make the parishes more workable, to raise a little the very scanty endowment of the clergy, and thus to promote the spiritual good of the place."

The Bishop of Exeter has just issued the following pastoral, which was read in many of the churches of the diocese on Sunday:—

"*The Palace, Exeter, September* 7, 1885.

"Dear Sir,—The persistent attacks of the advocates of Disestablishment upon England's Church demand our prayerful thought and combined action in the near prospect of the general election. The very continuance of our Church as the Established Church of England is denounced; and the right of our people to the use of these consecrated buildings for the services they love, and in which we and our fathers from generation to generation have worshipped God, is challenged. Under the plea of religious equality a cry has been raised for the separation of Church and State, for the application of ecclesiastical endowments to secular purposes, and for the ejection of the clergy from their churches, in order that they may be placed at the disposal of the ratepayers or sold to the highest bidder. These demands are supported by statements with regard to the origin and history of Church property which are totally misleading, and which are for the most part addressed to those who are least able to detect their fallacy. The newly-enfranchised labourers are beset with importunities. Promises of personal aggrandisement and a share in the spoils of the Church are held out to them, promises which, though impossible of fulfilment, may easily dazzle and delude those who do not know the facts of the case. Thus the past and the future are alike misrepresented, and there is a real danger that action injurious to the Church, and as I believe yet more injurious to the State of England, may be assisted by men who ought to be among the staunchest upholders of both, and who would be such if they understood the truth of the matter. It is our duty to do all that in us lies to guard against this danger. And for this end I desire to bring before you, and through you before the clergy of your deaneries, the question how far we can in the short interval before the general election, and also afterwards, draw the attention of the laity to this subject, so as to promote a sounder knowledge of the relation of Church and State, the source and history of endowments, and the disastrous consequences which must follow Disestablishment. It should be distinctly stated that our efforts have no party object, religious or political, but are directed to clear away misconceptions and to confirm the truth. Different methods will commend themselves in different parishes. The systematic distribution of suitable tracts and papers, which may be obtained from the Church Defence Institution, 9, Bridge-street, Westminster, preceded or followed by a parish meeting, at which the question in all its bearings can be freely discussed, will probably be the best plan in many places. In others a course of lectures may seem preferable. Questions relating to the temporalities of the Church do not seem to me subjects for the pulpit and the house of prayer, but for the platform and the schoolroom; while, on the other hand, I am sure it is the bounden duty of the clergy now to teach their people in public and in private, on Sunday and on working-day, the solemn responsibility of having a vote and of acting truthfully and honestly in respect of that vote, so that employers and employed alike may exercise their political rights faithfully before God according to their own conscience and convictions. Above all, at this juncture are we bound as witnesses for truth to testify that our God is the God of nations as well as of individuals and of families, that He deals with nations as nations, and that of nations as of persons it is true, 'Them that honour Me I will honour, and they that despise Me shall be lightly esteemed.' A National Church is the expression of national fidelity to God. It is often alleged, indeed, that the Christianity of a land is in no wise dependent on an Established Christian Church; and the instance of the United States is cited in proof of this. Let me mention one fact, which may at least give rise to reflection. In the year 1870 a chaplain was to be appointed for the House of Congress. Of the candidates for the post eventually a Unitarian was elected; and so the deliberations of that generally Christian nation were opened day after day by one who denied the Eternal Godhead of Christ. If England's Church were disestablished what guarantee should we have against the same dishonour being done to our Lord? for the Episcopal Church would stand on the same level before the law with all other bodies who professed and called themselves Christians. That God may evermore keep us as a Church and nation steadfast to the faith once delivered to the saints is the sincere prayer of your affectionate brother in Christ,

"E. H. Exon.

"P.S.—The Norwich Diocesan Church Defence Association has opened a fund for the purpose of enabling the clergy of the diocese—1. To employ a book-hawker to distribute selected leaflets in the cottages of the several villages and to offer for sale the larger publications to the more substantial inhabitants. 2. To offer a gratis copy of *The Englishman's Brief on Behalf of his National Church* to any one whose application is recommended by the clergyman of the parish. Is not this course worthy of our adoption?"

DRESS IN AUTUMN.

Cotton materials have not been used this season to nearly the same extent that they were in demand in previous years. Light woollen fabrics have largely superseded them. Nun's veiling, canvas, and other textures of a similar description have been found to look as summer-like as cottons, cambrics, and lawns, and to be free from those disadvantages of readily crushing and soiling which render washing materials something of a trial in our climate. The beauty of the satteens, found so tempting in former years, hardly recompenses the owner for the necessity of sending the dresses on frequent visits to the cleaner, and of the unpicking and subsequent reconstructive processes involved in so doing. Muslins have been more worn than cottons this year. Though more fragile of fabric, they yet crush less easily than the latter, and the beauty of the colours in which they are printed, though it is not in itself superior to the tints of the cottons, appears to be so, being enhanced by the soft transparency of the ground on which the colours are shown. It is to be feared that this falling off in the demand for cotton materials may involve some loss to the manufacturers, but, on the other hand, the looms producing woollen stuffs, plushes, and velveteens may with certainty be promised constant work. Silk does not enter largely into the composition of winter walking dresses. It is used for the invisible foundation of the best-made gowns, but otherwise is not much in demand, except for dinner and reception toilets. Wool is, hygienically regarded, the very best material for winter wear. For once, therefore, fashion runs on parallel lines with common-sense. But there is abundance of room for improvement in the mode of making. In the fashionable gown there is far too much bunching of folds round the region of the waist, where the body naturally is much hotter and more retentive of heat than at any other part. This crowding of drapery about the hips is highly injurious, and more especially so when the extremities are not clothed with sufficient warmth. In the autumn months, when chills are lying in wait for poor humanity, a warm dress is often donned in self-defence, while the silk-stockings and thin-soled boots of summer wear are unchanged. The body gets over-heated, while the feet remain cold, with the uncomfortable, clammy feeling that may be accepted as a faithful portent of a coming chill. It would be a safer way to avoid a cold to leave the summer gown unchanged, while adding something warmer over the region of the lungs, and rendering the chaussure additionally thick. Children especially suffer from cold in early autumn; and it is not generally recognised as a fact that a little care in September, and during the first days of October may often be the means of averting attacks of croup and other kindred ills. The substitution of long stockings for the short socks that are responsible for so much of our infants' mortality; the removal of the equally pernicious short sleeves in favour of those long enough to reach the wrist; and the change from longcloth to flannel in underclothing, will keep many a nursery free from the doctor's visits. We are hardly sufficiently sensible of the immensity of our debt of gratitude to the sheep, the goat, and other humble wool manufacturers, to whom we owe our flannels, serges, and other warm winter materials. The example of the wise woman of the Proverbs, who "clothed her household in scarlet," might well be followed by some of our modern English matrons, who understand that scarlet is the Oriental equivalent for winter warmth of vesture. And it may not, perhaps, be irrelevant to hint that a little kindly care is not ill-bestowed upon the women-servants of the household, who are too apt to spend their earnings upon exterior show, neglecting the prosaic details of flannel and hose.

Another invasion of stripes is probable in the later autumn. The great majority of the new materials are thus varied, the stripes being wider than most of those seen during the summer months. The favourite combinations of colour are still red and blue, red and green, with a dash of amber, introduced in flecks into both; brown and amber, blue and canary colour, and green and écru. These striped fabrics are not intended to compose the entire dress, materials of plain ground being invariably provided for mingling with them and, as it were, giving relief to the stripes. In other woollen stuffs lines of tufted silk are introduced, such as red and gold upon black, gold and green upon cinnamon brown, or gold and navy blue upon a ground of moss green. Yet another variety has lines of finest silky goat's hair thrown up in irregular little notches and loops upon a ground of one of the usual fashionable tints, navy or gunpowder blue, cigar-brown, grenat, bronze, myrtle, or wine-colour. The skirtings appear in more than their usual richness of texture this year, a fact that is probably owing to the fashion introduced in the spring of wearing them as outside skirts under a polonaise of some dark colour. The beauty of some of the silk stripes in gold and cardinal upon a ground of navy blue, or in bright poppy red or black, or in gold colour alone on a background of navy blue, to which the vivid contrast of the gold imparts a tint of violet, well adapts them for this purpose. They would be almost too vivid in colouring for the subdued taste of the day, only that it is an invariable rule that the overdress shall be dark in tone, and that only a small proportion of the skirting shall be displayed beneath it. A gown of this description is made with a black camel's hair overdress, opening up one side, and caught on the hips with a large antique buckle. The skirt of red and gold stripes on a ground of black, is, for the rest, visible for only some ten inches round the rest of the dress. Gold and red feathers are worn in the black hat that accompanies the costume. It is odd to remark how feathers run in families, and how, at particular seasons, such families show a sudden outbreak of brightly-tinted plumes and aigrettes in their headgear. And in other families there is a correspondent love of artificial flowers. A long spray of laburnum or westeria reposes among the folds of the mother's bonnet lace, while the daughters have each their bunch of asters, their garland of autumn-tinted leaves, or a group of velvet-petalled white roses or gardenias. It should be borne in mind that very gaily coloured feathers are scarcely ornamental if not led up to with some degree of skill. There is a sad want of relevancy, for instance, in a foaming group of green and yellow shaded feathers fastened in a black hat and surmounting a wholly black toilet. They have no meaning. A white feather would be much more suitable, and a black one better than any. A pale pink or softly blue aigrette is quite permissible with an otherwise wholly black toilet, which it lights up pleasantly, and a long white ostrich feather is a beautiful ornament about a girl's hat, provided it be of the first quality and arranged with consummate skill. Few things are more grotesque than feathers when they are out of condition or placed rampant upon the hat or bonnet. Only fur surpasses them in this respect, and it needs a practised hand to adapt it to any kind of headgear. A lovely girl appeared at a fashionable watering-place a few days ago in a white velvet hat with a curled brim rolled back upon itself and the rolled part covered with white swansdown. Nothing could more admirably have framed the fresh beauty of her complexion. In the same way dark fur, if skilfully applied, adds a charm to youthful beauty; but it inevitably burlesques what it fails to improve.

It is the fashion now for small dogs to wear neckties matching their mistress's gown or sash. This is a greater infliction on the poor little animals than perhaps is realised by those who impose such penance upon them. Dogs are very sensitive to ridicule, and the pug or the Dandie Dinmont that is tied up in a yellow bow knot which persists in coming round under his chin and impeding his movements knows well that he is a mark for the sarcasm of all the other dogs he meets. What they think of the new fashion of scenting them is difficult to guess; but, to judge by their uneasy starts and sniffs for some time after the perfume has been rubbed into their hair, their opinion would appear to be an unfavourable one. Perhaps, however, they only need to be educated up to the sensation. An American lady has set the example of having a pet lamb to follow her in the streets instead of a dog. This sort of pet will be found to have its inconveniences when the lamb grows into a burly, woolly sheep. Not all the perfumes of Araby would adapt it for a drawing-room pet. Persons possessed of the useful gift of foresight will hesitate before adopting a lamb as a permanent pet. Better take to birds, like Count Fosco; or to butterflies, like the heroine of a once-read novel.—*Daily News.*

EDUCATIONAL.

The Oxford local examinations for the year 1885 were held in both June and July, beginning on June 8 and July 13 respectively, and the results were made known at the end of last week. They were held at 50 centres at one of these times and at five at both of them. At 19 centres the local examinations were combined with a school examination under the direction of the delegacy, and 13 were new centres. The examinations in June were held at 11 centres and the number of candidates examined was 308—viz., 299 juniors and 109 seniors. The examinations in July were held at 43 centres, and the number of candidates examined was 1,893—viz., 1,141 juniors and 752 seniors. The total number of candidates examined in 1885 was 2,301—viz., 1,440 juniors and 861 seniors, which, as compared with the number examined in 1884, shows an increase of 331—viz., 108 juniors and 223 seniors. Of the seniors 19 candidates who had exceeded the age of 19 were examined with a view to obtaining pass certificates only, of whom 11 were successful. Of the candidates 1,032 juniors and 368 seniors were boys, and 493 seniors and 408 juniors were girls. In addition to the candidates 28 persons were admitted to the examination with a view to becoming medical students or presenting themselves for the degree of Bachelor of Music. The number of candidates and other persons entered for the examination was 2,386—viz., 421 in June and 1,965 in July. In the lists the results of the examination held both in June and July are combined, and 909 juniors and 508 seniors (being 63·2 and 68·3 per cent. respectively of the number examined) appear as having gained certificates. Of the seniors 32 are placed in the first and 51 in the second division, of whom one and 12 respectively are girls. Of the juniors 108 are placed in the first, and 166 in the second division, of whom four and 30 respectively are girls. Forty-five of the senior boys showed enough merit to be excused responsions, and 14 of the senior girls for be first examination for women.

The High Sheriff of Worcestershire has given £700 to the fund for enlarging the National School at North Malvern. It is proposed to remodel the old schools and to build a new school for 150 boys, with a master's residence, at a cost of about £2,200. A suitable site has been given by Lady Emily Foley and Sir Henry Lambert.

Sir John Humphreys, coroner for East Middlesex, has held an inquest at Poplar concerning the death of Ermyntrude Leitch, aged three and a half years. The evidence showed that the deceased, on coming home from school one day, complained of feeling unwell. As she got worse a doctor was sent for. Various remedies were tried, but she continued to get worse, and died on the following day. A post-mortem examination showed that the cause of death was effusion of blood on the brain, which might have been brought about by over-study. The jury returned a verdict in accordance with the medical evidence.

The next elections of candidates for admission to the Masonic Girls' and Boys' Schools will be held at the Freemasons' Tavern on the 10th and 12th of October. For the Girls' School, on the 10th, there are 34 candidates and 16 vacancies, and for the Boys' School, on the 12th, 56 candidates and 37 vacancies. Out of the 34 female candidates, 10 are London girls, 2 Lincolnshire, 1 Norfolk, 2 Suffolk, 4 Yorkshire, 1 Northumberland, 4 Hants and Isle of Wight, 2 Sussex, 2 Essex, 1 Monmouth, 3 Kent, and 1 Devonshire. Of the 56 candidates for the Boys' School, 26 are from London, 2 from South Wales, 1 Lincolnshire, 2 Durham, 2 Northumberland, 3 Lancashire, 4 Hants and the Isle of Wight, 1 Malta, 1 Staffordshire, 4 Yorkshire, 1 Oxford, 4 Sussex, 1 Cheshire, 1 Monmouth, 1 Devon, 1 Cambridge, and 1 Herts. The number of girls boarded, clothed, and educated from 8 to 16 years of age in the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls at St. John's-hill, Battersea-rise, is 242, and the number of boys for whom the same benefits are provided from 8 to 15 years of age in the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys at Wood-green is 215. Recently, however, a preparatory school has been erected for boys of 7 years of age, and at the election on the 12th proximo it is proposed to elect 15 such boys in addition to 22 boys for whom there will be vacancies in the senior school. The junior school is capable of holding 100 boys, but the funds of the institution, it is said, will only allow of 15 being taken on at first. It was at this school that the Baroness Burdett-Coutts placed a corner-stone on the 11th of August last, and advantage was then taken of the opportunity of appealing again to the already generous Craft for more donations, but the result was rather disappointing.

Speaking at a meeting of managers, teachers, pupil-teachers, and scholars, held in the grounds of the Bishop's palace at Norwich on Saturday afternoon, in connection with the distribution of prizes on the late competitive religious examination in the diocese, the Bishop said that, considering the pecuniary and other difficulties Church schools had had to contend with, and bearing in mind the large number of such schools under Government inspection, they might thank God and take courage. Notwithstanding that some schools had unfortunately been handed over to boards, he thought the Church showed life, vigour, and progress in religious education. He begged all managers to increase their sympathy and help, and thought landowners could not expend their money better than by helping on the Elementary Voluntary schools of the country. His Lordship gave some advice to teachers, exhorting them to show sympathy towards the children; and while advancing secular education, he begged them to consider above all their religious welfare. The increased cost of elementary education was not thrown away, for better results were achieved; and while the cost per child had greatly risen, the Government grant and pence had both helped to meet the increased expenditure. Previous to the distribution the Bishop entertained a very large number of teachers and children to luncheon in the palace grounds. From the report which was read, it appeared that the results of the late examination showed that in some schools the religious instruction of pupil-teachers had not received adequate attention. In the children's examinations the results showed that the first class had risen from 12 to 14½ per cent., while the failures of the whole had decreased from 30½ to 23 per cent.

Lord Ripon on Wednesday evening addressed a meeting held at the George-green Schools, East

India-road, to celebrate the inauguration of the Poplar centre of the Society for the Extension of University Teaching. His Lordship referred to the excellent work which was at present being done by the society under whose auspices they were met together, and to the high educational value of the lectures which were delivered in connection with the society. The men who delivered them were men of the same stamp as those who were training day by day the students of Oxford and Cambridge, and they would be content with nothing less. They would be satisfied with no inferior instruction. The chairman in his opening observations had alluded to the two subjects which would be dealt with in the first course of lectures, "Magnetism and Frictional Electricity," and "The Making of Modern England." The lectures on the latter subject would tell them how this wonderful country, of which they were so proud, had been built up during recent centuries, and how there had gone on for the last 200 years that almost uninterrupted course of political progress which culminated at length in the admission of a great body of the people to the rights of citizenship. Referring to the society's methods of tuition, his Lordship said that the pupils had, first, the best teachers that could be procured for them in the country; they had then their instruction so given as to bring it home to them in the most efficient manner; and finally they had the advantage of weekly papers and examinations in order to see how far the students had profited by what they had learnt. It seemed to him that they had a very thorough and efficient and real course of University teaching. The society had made but slight progress during the first years of its existence; but its benefits were now being appreciated, and it was advancing much more rapidly. At the present moment there were twenty-five centres and upwards of fifty courses of lectures and between 2,500 and 3,000 students. It might be said that 3,000 students represented but a very small number of those who had the talents and abilities to avail themselves of the educational advantages afforded to them. All that the society could do was to make offers to the public: it was for the public to come forward and aid them to carry out their programme and to come forward as students. He was happy to see that during his absence of five years from England a great deal had gone on, great advances had been made in many directions, and he was quite convinced that there were few things more important for the highest interests of the country in these days than that they should do everything in their power to break down and destroy the separation of classes and of localities. In conclusion, his Lordship said that what was especially needed by the society was that they should have young men and young women who would not reject the gift. The society came to them with no narrow scheme, with no airs of patronage or condescension. That culture by which they themselves had profited, and of which they knew the priceless value, they asked to be allowed to impart to them in no stinted measure. They desired to teach them all that the great seats of English learning could supply. What they had received themselves they freely gave, and with it desired to give them that power which knowledge proverbially could confer, that, casting aside the conceit of superficial acquirement and freeing themselves from the narrow prejudices of imperfect education, they might, in those new times in which their country was calling on her children, without distinction of class or of position, take their full share in the mighty responsibility of her government, be noble, faithful to discharge their duty with trained faculties and open minds, for England's truest honour and for the good of their fellow men.

An appeal is being made to the public on behalf of industrial schools as a means of reclaiming the poor children of our large towns from the unhappy life that is almost always their lot. The promoters in their appeal say that the number of children in our large towns suffering from want of the necessaries of life is much larger than is generally supposed. Amid overcrowding, insanitary defects, profligate parents, drunkenness, and vile surroundings are reared a vast proportion of our poor population. Helpless, innocent, and without any power of choice, these children of the people are thoughtlessly or basely denied the common rights of humanity, and, exposed to every hardship and cruelty they grow up to mature life unfit for anything useful or good, enemies to order and morality, wretched in themselves, and end their career in a workhouse, a gaol, or on the scaffold. For such cases Board schools are worse than useless and a mockery, for such scholars either break down from the weakness engendered by want of food, or their little acquirement of learning adds ability to their criminal training. Industrial schools, on the other hand, supply a true and effective remedy; their only fault, as a rule, is the not carrying on the industrial training far enough to make their scholars able and efficient workmen. The self-supporting school now projected aims at supplying this defect. It is proposed to make the school so far self-supporting that if the plan proves successful three or four of such schools may be supported at the present expense of one. The school life is to be divided into two periods—the first five years, from 8 to 13, to be passed in the probationary school, and then the lad will be turned over to an industrial school and be apprenticed thereto for the next five years. The appeal issued by the Committee contains the details of the training proposed in each school. To carry out this design an influential committee is being formed, and one gentleman has offered an endowment of £25,000, to be held in trust by the committee for the general support of the work. A site is now being sought, and this early publication of the scheme is made in the hope that some philanthropist may be led to promote this effort to rescue neglected and destitute children in the most effective way possible by giving the land necessary. It is particularly desired to obtain from twenty-five to thirty acres in a healthy situation, near a railway station and within twenty miles of London. The following gentlemen constitute the present committee:—The Earl of Rosslyn, Sir Henry Selwin-Ibbetson, M.P., Lord St. Oswald, Mr. C. S. Loch, secretary to the Charity Organisation Society, Mr. F. Raikes, Mr. Thomas Hawksley, M.D., and Mr. Thomas Cave, with Mr. James G. Noel, C.B., 8, Hanover-square, W., as hon. secretary, during whose temporary absence from London letters may be addressed to Dr. Hawksley, 20, Lewes-crescent, Brighton.

THE COURT.

Divine service was conducted at Balmoral Castle on Sunday, in the presence of the Queen, the Royal Family, and household by the Rev. Principal Tulloch. The Earl of Iddesleigh and the Rev. Principal Tulloch dined with the Queen and Royal Family.

On Monday morning the Queen and Princess Beatrice, attended by Lady Churchill, drove to the Inver Cottage and placed wreaths on the coffin of J. Bowman, the keeper whose sad death occurred on the 9th inst. In the afternoon Her Majesty, attended by Lady Churchill and the Hon. Harriet Phipps, witnessed the funeral procession of her late keeper on its way to Crathie Kirkyard. Her Majesty drove out later with the Hon. Harriet Phipps and the Hon. Frederica FitzRoy. Prince and Prince Henry of Battenberg and the Hereditary Grand Duke of Hesse, with Prince Christian Victor of Schleswig-Holstein, rode. The Duchess of Albany dined with the Queen and Royal Family. Principal Tulloch left the Castle.

On Tuesday Colonel H. Ewart, C.B., arrived at the Castle, and in the evening received the honour of knighthood by the Queen and was invested by Her Majesty with the insignia of a Knight Commander of the Order of the Bath.

The Queen is expected to reside in Scotland till about Nov. 20 or 23. The Court, on quitting Balmoral, will proceed to Windsor Castle, where a suite of apartments is being prepared for Prince and Princess Henry of Battenberg.

The Prince of Wales attended Divine service on Sunday at the Anglican Church, and at half-past one in the afternoon left Christiania.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The Queen on Monday attended the funeral of James Bowman, Her Majesty's oldest Highland gamekeeper, who met with a fatal accident last week. During the morning Her Majesty, Princess Beatrice, and Princess Frederica of Hanover drove from Balmoral Castle to Bowman's house at Inver, and each of them placed a wreath of heather and everlasting flowers on the coffin. In the afternoon Her Majesty, attended by the Hon. Frederica FitzRoy and the Hon. Harriet Phipps, met and joined the funeral procession at Lawsie, and the Queen rose in her carriage as the hearse passed. The party from Balmoral, who walked in the procession all the distance from Inver to Crathie Churchyard, about four miles, included General Gardiner, Captain Bigge, and the Hon. A. Yorke. The attendance numbered about 200.

Sir Thomas Bateson, M.P., upon whom the Queen has been graciously pleased to confer a peerage, is the second but eldest surviving son of the late Sir Robert Bateson, who was for some years M.P. for county Londonderry, by marriage with Catherine, youngest daughter of Mr. Samuel Dickson, of Ballinaguille, county Limerick, and he was born in June, 1819. Sir Thomas Bateson formerly held a captaincy in the 13th Light Dragoons, and he succeeded his father as second baronet in 1863. He is a magistrate and deputy lieutenant for the counties of Down and Londonderry, and he sat in the House of Commons as member for Londonderry from 1845 till 1857, and was a Lord of the Treasury in Lord Derby's Administration in 1852, and he has represented Devizes since 1864. Sir Thomas married, in 1849, the Hon. Caroline Elizabeth Ann Rice-Trevor, daughter of George, fourth Lord Dynevor, by whom he has issue two daughters.

An extraordinary disaster occurred on Saturday afternoon at Bradford, on the local tramway. A steam locomotive unexpectedly got into motion at the depot and started out into the road, being beyond the control of the driver. It ran at a rapid pace down the Manchester-road, and was not brought to a standstill until it had smashed a trap and killed a man and so injured another that he died soon afterwards. Owing to a steep gradient, the engine got into rapid motion again, and the wildest alarm was created in the crowded thoroughfare. In the course of its career the locomotive tore a horse to pieces, and knocked down a lamp-post and an iron pillar. Ultimately it was arrested by coming in contact with the kerb. Several tram-cars laden with passengers had a narrow escape.

Under the presidency of the Lord Mayor there was a meeting of Cape Merchants and other persons interested in South Africa held on Wednesday at Cannon-street Hotel to consider the recall of Sir Chas. Warren. It was agreed, on the motion of Mr. W. G. Soper, seconded by Mr. A. Giles, M.P., that the recall of Sir Charles could not be other than prejudicial to the political and commercial interests of South Africa, and the meeting therefore respectfully urged on Her Majesty's Government to take such steps as would secure his continuance as an Imperial Commissioner over all British territories outside the jurisdiction of the Cape Colony and Natal. Sir Wm. M'Arthur, M.P., who proposed that a copy of the resolution should be forwarded to the Premier and the Colonial Secretary, said that if the removal of Sir Charles was insisted upon, the troubles he had overcome would be renewed. He also urged that it was necessary for the Government to establish a protectorate over Zululand.

The King of Sweden has informed the Academy of Sciences at Paris that upon attaining his 60th year—in January, 1889—he intends offering a prize of 2,500f., in addition to a gold medal, valued at 1,000f. to the author of the most important discovery in mathematical science. The judges, who have already been nominated, consist of three gentlemen, the first being a Swiss, the second a German, and the third M. Hermite, a member of the Paris Academy of Sciences.

The Trades Union Congress at Southport concluded its sittings on Saturday. Mr. Juggings (Darlaston) moved a resolution instructing the Parliamentary Committee to reintroduce the Factory and Workshops Amendment Bill of 1883, which applies to the employment of female children in the forging of nails, chains, &c. The previous question was, however, moved and carried. A resolution was carried urging the advisability of largely increasing the number of sanitary inspectors, and that sanitary inspectors should not be appointed unless they had undergone a practical examination. A resolution was also adopted thanking the Government for the appointment of workmen magistrates, and asking for the appointment of workmen assessors in stipendiary magisterial Courts.

The village of Romford St. Ervan, about four miles to the south-west of Padstow, on the north coast of Cornwall, was on Thursday week the scene of a remarkable phenomenon which caused considerable alarm to most of the villagers. The weather up to two o'clock in the afternoon was calm, with a little rain; but about that time three rows of corn standing in an adjacent field were suddenly carried into the air to a considerable height, and the sheaves fell in showers at distances varying from 50 to 100 yards from their original position. Immediately after, the roof of a cattle-shed was wrenched off with great force, and an apple tree, with roots of about 15in. in circumference, was uprooted with much violence, and its leaves with those of the surrounding trees, were whirled upwards in a cloud to such a height that they were entirely lost to view by those who witnessed the strange occurrence.

At Kendal and at Kirkby Lonsdale in the course of last week the estates of the late Mr. W. W. Carus Wilson were offered for sale by auction, by Messrs. Ventom, Bull, and Cooper. On each occasion the rooms were crowded, and, in spite of the present depressed state of the land market, the biddings were remarkably brisk. Of the thirty-five lots offered all were sold with the exception of one farm, the reserved price of which was not quite reached. The agricultural land realised from thirty to forty years' purchase. The family mansion and several farms at Casterton, near Kirkby Lonsdale, were bought by the Earl of Bective, and other local landowners were purchasers of various lots. The aggregate of the lots sold amounted to about £85,000.

The Rev. Dr. Logan Aikman, minister of the Anderston United Presbyterian Church, Glasgow, and Moderator of the Presbyterian Synod, died suddenly on Sunday afternoon at his residence, 31, St. Vincent-crescent, Glasgow. He was for six years a member of the Glasgow School Board, and at his first election stood at the top of the poll.

The magistrate at Bow-street devoted Saturday to the further hearing of the charge of abducting Eliza Armstrong. Mrs. Armstrong was again cross-examined at length, and she emphatically denied having received anything beyond a shilling given to her by the prisoner Jarrett at the time the arrangement was made for the latter taking the child into her service. Mrs. Broughton, at whose house the engagement was made, said she had known Jarrett for some time, but she denied knowing she had led an immoral life. She confirmed in detail the main points of the story told by Eliza and her mother as to Jarrett engaging the girl to enter her service at Wimbledon, and said that Jarrett promised that the girl should write to her friends when she liked, and be brought home once a month. Counsel was proceeding to cross-examine witness as to her knowledge of Jarrett's character, when the magistrate said it did not apear to him that the purity of these women's lives need be gone into, the question being whether the child was taken away unlawfully. On Monday Mrs. Broughton's cross-examination was taken up by Mr. Stead; then followed the evidence of some girls who were present at the interviews between Mrs. Armstrong, Jarrett, and Broughton. Charles Armstrong, the child's father, also gave his version of the affair, which substantially agreed with all that had been deposed to by his wife. Inspector Borner gave an extremely interesting history of his connection with the case and of the mode in which he practically recovered the child. The next hearing is fixed for Saturday, the 26th inst., and Mr. Vaughan may then be able to announce whether he considers the evidence sufficiently conclusive to justify the committal of the defendants.

The Registrar-General's return for the week ending September 12 shows that the deaths registered during that period in 28 great towns of England and Wales correspond to an annual rate of 17·3 per 1,000 of their aggregate population, which is estimated at 8,906,446 persons in the middle of this year. The six healthiest places were Brighton, Hull, Bolton, Oldham, Bristol, and Bradford. In London 2,330 births and 1,221 deaths were registered. Allowances being made for increase of population, the births were 357, and the deaths 228, below the average numbers in the corresponding weeks of the last ten years. The annual death-rate per 1,000 from all causes, which had been 18·8, 17·5, and 15·8 in the three preceding weeks, further declined to 15·6 last week, a lower rate than in any week on record. During the first ten weeks of the current quarter the mean death-rate was 19·0 per 1,000, against 20·7 in the corresponding period of the nine years 1876-84. The 1,221 deaths included 3 from smallpox, 25 from measles, 15 from scarlet-fever, 22 from diphtheria, 39 from whooping-cough, 1 from typhus, 12 from enteric fever, 1 from an ill-defined form of continued fever, 62 from diarrhœa and dysentery, and not one from cholera or choleraic diarrhœa; thus, 180 deaths were referred to these diseases, being 114 below the corrected average weekly number. In Greater London 2,980 births and 1,518 deaths were registered, equal to annual rates of 29·9 and 15·2 per 1,000 of the population. In the Outer Ring 24 deaths from diphtheria, 8 from small-pox, 7 from whooping-cough, and 5 from "fever" were registered. Of the 8 fatal cases of smallpox, 5 were recorded in West Ham, 1 in Stratford, 1 in Croydon, and 1 in Harrow sub-district.

Lady Frederick Cavendish on Monday presented to the Corporation of Barrow-in-Furness an oil painting of her deceased husband, by Neumans, of Scarborough. It is a striking likeness, and is an exact copy of that now hanging in the Council Room of the Yorkshire College, Leeds. Her Ladyship asks that the portrait may be placed in the Townhall, where she feels sure it will be valued by the inhabitants of a town and neighbourhood in which her husband ever took so warm and deep an interest. The Corporation have gratefully acknowledged the gift.

The will (dated Aug. 29, 1881) of Lady Margaret Percy, late of 111, Eaton-square, and of Pembroke Lodge, Sunning-hill, Berks, who died on June 20 last, was proved on the 11th ult. by Sir Charles Grant, K.C.S.I., the son, one of the executors, the value of the personal estate exceeding £49,000. The testatrix leaves her residence in Eaton-square, with the furniture, plate, pictures, books, and effects, upon trust, for her son, Colonel George Algernon Percy, and an annuity to her late housekeeper. As to the residue of her property, she gives onethird to her said son Sir Charles Grant, one third to her son Robert Grant, and one-third to her daughter, Mrs. Sybella Sophia Ryder. The deceased's first husband was Sir Robert Grant, and on his death she married Lord Josceline William Percy, whom she also survived.

An estate which is said to be worth a sum as probably no millionaire has ever possessed is just now in dispute in the United States. Before the days of the American revolutionary war a man named John Mercer crossed the Atlantic from Scotland and settled in Pennsylvania. In a few years' time he acquired some landed property in the city of New York, and let it on a long lease to the American Government. His son, Amos, who inherited the estate, had five children, three boys and two girls. Two of the sons were believed to have been killed in the war of 1812, but the third, Joseph, settled in Ohio about the year 1830; and, amid the delights of a country life, seems to have forgotten all about his father's property in New York. In 1876 the lease expired. Mr. Vanderbilt made an effort to get possession of a portion of the estate; but the Supreme Court decided that it belonged to the heirs, who, however, were not at the time forthcoming. During the last few years claimants for the property have turned up in the persons of Mr. J. D. Mercer and Mrs. Lance, of Ohio. They assert that they are the legal representatives of John and Amos Mercer, and they have taken measures to put their pretensions to the test. Unlike the majority of claimants to great estates, they are tolerably well off, and are therefore in a position to press their suit. Many of the leading American lawyers are confident that the claim can be substantiated. Indeed, the only doubtful point in their case is whether or not two of Amos Mercer's sons were really killed in 1812. The property in dispute is certainly worth fighting for. A hundred years ago its annual rental was not more than 3,000dols. or 4,000dols.; but, at the present time, the value of the estate, which is situated in one of the most crowded parts of the empire city, is estimated at not less than 500,000,000dols., a sum which is equal to £100,000,000 in English money.

The *Novoe Vremya* gives the following description of the palace occupied by the Emperor and Empress of Russia during their recent visit to Kief:—"The Imperial palace is situated in the aristocratic part of the town called the Lipki quarter, not far from the citadel. It is very picturesquely situated, and it was from here that the Empress Catherine wrote to Zimmermann that 'Kief abounded in romantic views.' The ancient palace, half of wood and half of brick, had nothing imposing about it, though it was very sumptuously furnished. This palace was burnt down in 1819; the new palace, which stands upon the same site, not having been commenced until 1868, and finished in 1870. It is of the rococo style, and the principal façade looks out upon a courtyard formed by galleries which connect the body of the palace with the side buildings, which latter are only one story high. The main courtyard, which is surrounded with an iron railing, contains a great many poplars, while the smaller courtyards are planted with flowers. The staircase is very broad, and leads to a vestibule which opens on to a large balcony. To the left of the vestibule are the Imperial apartments, those of the Emperor being very simply furnished, but lofty. The late Czar resided there five or six times, and used to amuse himhimself by nailing drawings and valuable engravings upon the walls. Among them is the well-known 'Demon' series of M. Zichy. The apartments of the Empress are more sumptuous, the study containing beautiful views of Yalta and Livadia painted by Aivazovsky, as well as a table in precious stones of Siberia from the Hermitage Palace. The bedroom and boudoir contain a very fine copy of Murillo's 'Madonna,' painted by M. Joukovsky, and some lace toilette work which was much admired by the Queen of Italy when she visited Kief in 1876. The lilac drawing-room with its bronze candelabra and timepiece in the Renaissance style, its porcelain vases from the Imperial manufactory at Alexandrovsky, its mosaic table bought by the late Czar at the Paris Exhibition of 1867, its china vases, and its album of all Rembrandt's pictures, is also very beautiful. The apartments of the Grand Dukes are upon the second storey, and are chiefly remarkable for the profusion of engravings and drawings which were placed in them by the late Czar. The other side of the palace overlooks the gardens, and the walls are covered with climbing plants. At the foot of the garden terrace are two statues of dogs, one of them being that of the late Czar's favourite setter. The gardens are well laid out and contain some very fine trees, while there is a very fine view across the Dnieper to the steppes, which extend to the forest of Tchernikoff. There are extensive conservatories and vineries in the gardens of this palace, which has been inhabited for the last two or three years by the Grand Duchess Alexandra Petrovna."

METROPOLITAN FREE HOSPITAL.—The aggregate number of patients relieved during the week ending Sept. 12 was—medical 857 surgical 366; total 1,223, of which 461 were new cases.

MESSRS. FRY AND SONS are daily receiving numerous testimonials from the medical profession speaking in high terms of their Pure Concentrated Soluble Cocoa. Sir Charles Cameron, M.D., President of the Royal College of Surgeons, Ireland, says:—"I have formed a high opinion of its value. It is especially adapted to those whose digestive organs are weak, and I strongly recommend it as a substitute for tea." Ask your grocer for a sample of this delicious Cocoa.

CAUTION.—WATER FILTRATION.—The public are cautioned, before purchasing Filters, to see that what they buy are really water purifiers, and not mere strainers, which latter, although rendering water bright, do not remove the organic and mineral impurities In the instructions to the local boards of health by order of the Privy Council it has been distinctly stated that the old sponge filters are of no avail for purifying water. These filters are constantly advertised as a new patent, whereas the ONLY FILTERS, containing nothing but the purest ANIMAL CHARCOAL, are those supplied by the LONDON AND GENERAL WATER-PURIFYING COMPANY (Limited) 157, Strand (four doors from Somerset House), W.C.—Read "Water: its Impurities and Purification." Price 6d

LATEST NEWS.

MADRID, Sept. 18.

The official cholera bulletin issued this morning reports 946 cases and 311 deaths in Spain yesterday. Of these three cases and two deaths occurred in Madrid capital, 22 cases and eight deaths in Madrid province, and 51 cases and 14 deaths in Cadiz capital.

ST. PETERSBURG, Sept. 18.

M. Lessar arrived here yesterday with the Anglo-Russian protocol.

TOULON, Sept. 17.

M. Jules Roche, one of the deputies for the Department of Var, was announced to address a meeting of his constituents at the theatre this evening. About 4,000 persons assembled, but the proceedings were of a most disorderly character, and M. Roche found it impossible to obtain a hearing. The police were called in and cleared the theatre. A large crowd subsequently assembled outside the building, and some disturbances occurred in the street.

Sept. 18.

Three deaths from cholera in the suburbs have been registered since last night. The general sanitary condition of the town is, however, greatly improving. The sudden fatal cases which occurred yesterday have created a strong impression.

COPENHAGEN, Sept. 18.

The Prince of Wales yesterday visited the ruins of the Palace of Christiansborg, and made several purchases in the city.

NAPLES, Sept. 17.

At twenty minutes before eleven o'clock this morning the seismograph at Naples University registered a shock of earthquake, which lasted eight seconds.

The text has been issued of the Spanish Note to Germany, sent on the 12th of last month, in reply to the German intimation of the establishment of a protectorate over the Caroline and Pelew Islands. The second Note, sent from Madrid on the 9th of this month, contained data in support of the Spanish claims to sovereignty over those islands. It is stated that the Spanish Government has replied to the English Note recommending arbitration in the Caroline Islands question. The terms of the reply are, however, not yet known.

In Berlin it is semi-officially stated that the reports circulated by several newspapers concerning increased German naval preparations, in view of the contingency of war, are based purely on conjecture, and have no foundation whatever upon fact. We learn from Madrid that the Minister of Marine held a conference with Señor Canovas del Castillo on Thursday afternoon. The journal *El Correo* believes that a proposal was discussed to purchase four war vessels and one torpedo boat in England. This report has, however, received no official information.

The deaths from cholera continue to diminish in Spain and France, but some increase is reported in the Italian provinces of Palermo and Parma.

Cardinal Moran, Archbishop of Sydney (the first Australian Cardinal), was a passenger by the Orient Line steamer *Liguria*, which left London for Australia on Thursday.

It will be seen from the following comparative statements that the Liberation Society's returns make the number of candidates who are favourable, more or less, to Disestablishment fifty-nine more than the *Record's* returns; but that is because some of those who have refused information to the *Record*, or about whom it has no information, are accounted for in the Society's returns :—

The "Record" Returns.

	Liberals more or less for Disestablishment.	Opposed to Disestablishment.	Doubtful.	No information.	Present no. of Liberal candidates.
England	339	31	—	105	475
Scotland	39	5	—	28	72
Wales	25	1	—	6	32
	403	37	—	139	579

The Liberation Society's Returns.

England	373	25	7	45	450
Scotland	61	6	—	31	98
Wales	28	2	2	1	33
	462	33	9	77	581

The *Guardian's* calculations differ from both of those given above. According to this estimate the number of Liberals for Disestablishment is 374; for Disestablishment in Wales only, 4; in Scotland only, 14; in Scotland and Wales only, 10; against Disestablishment, 31; against it in England only, 13; in England and Wales only, 3; in Scotland only, 2. In thirty-five cases information was "refused," and in 113 "not attainable."

The long-neglected and disused chantry chapel of Bishop Russell in Lincoln Cathedral has been placed at the disposal of the Bishop of Lincoln for his private use. The ancient altar slab has been taken from the pavement, and will be replaced and re-dedicated.

At a largely-attended meeting of the Rochester Diocesan Church Defence Committee held on Wednesday, it was unanimously resolved that, in view of the threatened danger to the Church, the Committee be formed into a Central Vigilance Committee for the Diocese, and that leaflets and posters be circulated and branch committees formed in each parish where practicable. It was also resolved to communicate with all the Parliamentary candidates in the diocese to ascertain definitely their views and policy on the question of Disestablishment. The honorary secretary to the committee, Mr. G. H. F. Nye, 24, Lorn-road, Brixton, S.W., will be glad to receive the names of Churchmen willing to assist in Church Defence work in the diocese.

The votes of the men on strike at Sir W. Armstrong's works at Newcastle on the question as to whether the men should accept the proposal of the masters for a board of conciliation to inquire into the dispute at the Elswick Works has shown that 3,553 men voted for the board of inquiry and 348 against.

SOCIETY.

A marriage is arranged between the Hon. Louisa Greville, third son of the Earl of Warwick, and Miss Lily Gordon, daughter of the late Mr. J. H. Gordon.

Also between Rev. Cecil W. Nash, incumbent of Kincardine, O'Neil, Aberdeenshire, and Meriel, daughter of the Rev. Fortescue L. M. Anderson, North Bewick.

Also between Mr. W. H. Mason, eldest son of Mr. Mason, of Morton Hall, Notts, and Miss Sybil Mitford Johnston, second daughter of Mr. W. H. Johnston, of Annandale, Clifton.

Also between Mr. Edmund Ashton, of White Hill, Luton, and Miss Elizabeth Marian Cope, eldest daughter of the Rev. Francis Haden Cope, vicar of North Malvern.

On the 8th inst., at Fredensberg, took place the betrothal of Prince Waldemar of Denmark with Princess Marie of Orleans. Fredensberg is the Danish Versailles, and the day was chosen for the ceremony because it was the birthday of the Queen of Denmark. A brilliant family party assembled to do honour to the occasion. Prince Waldemar is a lieutenant in the Navy; and, having been born in 1858, is now just seven years older than his *fiancée*, who is 20. He is of fair complexion and erect figure, though not tall, and his air has some of the distinction that is so noticeable in his sister, our Princess of Wales. His face, without being strictly handsome, has a pleasant and sympathetic expression, and is illumined by a cultivated intelligence. Princess Marie-Amélie is also fair, with a slight and girlish figure, and an expression of quiet simplicity that is not always found among the daughters of princes. She has been "out" for two years, and has made many friends at the receptions of the Duchess de la Trémouille, the Baroness Rothschild, and the Duchess de Galliera. Her tastes are artistic, her water-colour drawings being fairly above the average of the usual young-lady standard. The Princess is also a clever horsewoman, an accomplishment which will doubtless be more appreciated by her youthful husband than all the drawing-room graces with which a careful education has endowed her. The marriage is to be celebrated during the present autumn at the Chateau d'Eu, the residence of the Comte de Paris, the head of the Orleans family. The enormous wealth of the connection is inspiring Paris tradesmen with brilliant anticipations of the forthcoming outlay on the trousseau and wedding presents.

A choral wedding took place recently at St. Simon's Church, Jersey. The officiating clergymen were the Rev. C. M. Godfray, brother of the bridegroom, assisted by the Rev. J. J. Balleine, vicar of St. Simon's, and the Rev. R. Boyce, incumbent of St. Paul's; the bridegroom, Captain Frederick James Godfray, R.J.M.A., youngest son of Mr. Charles Godfray, of Beau Séjour, and the old Bank; the bride, Miss Gertrude M. Price, youngest daughter of Mr. F. Price, H.M.I.C.S., Ceylon, for many years a resident in the island. The bride wore a dress of pearl-white ottoman, with bodice and train of moiré, pearl trimmings, long tulle veil and wreath of orange blossoms. She carried a magnificent bouquet, the gift of the bridegroom. The eight bridesmaids wore pearl-white Bengaline, trimmed with quantities of fine lace, sashes of white moiré, and Mary Stuart bonnets, trimmed with pearls and white aigrettes. Two of them were children, dressed in white silk, with Indian muslin and lace; large Rembrandt hats. They all carried baskets of Jacqueminot roses and ferns. The wedding party, numbering seventy guests, sat down to breakfast at the residence of Mr. F. Price, Villa Villetri. The bride and bridegroom left by the Weymouth boat in the afternoon for England.

At St. James's, Piccadilly, on the 27th ult., was celebrated the marriage of Mr. James Macpherson Lawrie, M.D., Weymouth, with Annie, youngest daughter of the Rev. Samuel Johnson Smith, of Smithborough and Orchard Vale, Ireland. Owing to recent family bereavements the ceremony was strictly private, only the immediate relatives of the bride and bridegroom being present. The officiating clergy were Rev. Canon Stephenson, of St. John's Church, Weymouth, and Rev. F. C. Lambert, of St. James's. The bride, in the unavoidable absence of her father, was given away by Sir Thomas Crawford, K.C.B., Director-General Army Medical Department. She wore a beautiful toilette, the front composed of satin duchesse, embroidered in pearls and chenille, the flowers, &c., veined with opal tinted irridescent beads. The pointed corsage was arranged with a Medici collar edged with pearls, which was fastened on one side with an aigrette of ostrich feathers, in which were placed the Irish and Scotch emblems—a sprig of shamrock and white heather—a happy idea of blending the nationalities of the bride and bridegroom. Sprigs of shamrock were also introduced in the handsome *choux* of white ribbon velvet which were placed down one side of the dress. Both the bodice and train were of striped velvet in the shade known as oyster-white. Each bridesmaid wore a gold bangle, the gift of the bridegroom. The bride's travelling dress was composed of myrtle-green plush eau de nil brocaded velvet and duchesse satin, with bonnet *en suite*.

The village of Tunstall was *en fête* recently on the occasion of the marriage of Mr. Edwin John Cheney and Miss Lilla Norman Hayward, elder daughter of the Rev. Frederick Lawson Hayward, rector of the parish. The officiating clergy were the Rev. R. C. M. Rouse, rector of Woodbridge, and the Rev. A. N. Bates, rector of Blaxhall. The bride's gown was of ivory-white satin duchesse, the train of which was arranged to fall in folds from the bodice. The skirt was draped with Indian muslin de soie, the edge being finished with a deep plaiting of satin, over which was arranged a fringe of orange blossom intermixed with jessamine of the same depth; a tulle veil fastened with jewelled fly pin. She also wore a diamond and sapphire ring, and carried a bouquet, gifts of the bridegroom. Her train was borne by two pages, who were attired in sapphire-blue plush and Irish point collars and cuffs, and wore gold horseshoe pins, gifts of the bridegroom. Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Cheney started, amidst a shower of rice and satin shoes, for Wickham Market station to catch the express to London, *en route* for the English lakes and Scotland. The bride's travelling dress was of tabac canvas draped with plush, and short mantle of same bordered with silk ruching; hat in same shade, with cream aigrette and loops of ruby velvet in the centre.

Mrs. Porteous gave a dance on the 11th inst., at Lauriston Castle, Montrose, N.B. Dancing commenced at ten o'clock, and was kept up with great spirit until an advanced hour. The floral decorations were very tasteful, the supper table being decorated with quantities of heather, lighted by shaded candles in silver candelabra. Among the guests present were Captain, Mrs., and Miss Forsyth Grant, Captain and Mrs. Stansfeld, Mrs. Gordon, the Misses Hewatt, Mr. Pearson, jun., of Johnston, Mr. Alex. Pearson, of Luce, Mr. Grant, the Misses Barnett, of Monboddo, Mrs. and Miss Scott, of Brotherton, Miss Moon, Mr. and Miss Farquhar, Colonel Blair Imrie, Mr. Renny Tailyour, Mrs. and the Misses Macdonald, Miss Davidson, &c. Among the many pretty toilettes were several white ones, notably a white embroidered India muslin, over silk, with broad sashes of white watered silk very tastefully arranged. Mrs. Porteous wore pale blue tulle, with brocade bodice, and a close wreath of forget-me-nots round the short sleeves and edge of square bodice, and clusters on the skirt; the Misses M'Donald wore white tulle, with white jet on the bodices, and mauve aigrettes; Mrs. Gordon wore mauve moiré, with dark shaded leaves; the Misses Hewatt wore black satin, with coffee lace at the throat and wrists; a lovely gown was of moss-green tulle, with loops of pale blue ribbon; a maize satin was gracefully trimmed with point lace; and an eau de Nil gown trimmed with wreaths of lilies of the valley was pretty.

Mr. and Mrs. Lucas-Shadwell gave last week a large garden party to more than four hundred guests at their country residence, The Hall, Fairlight. The refreshment table, which was tastefully arranged, was placed in the large dining-room. The entertainment was enlivened by some musical performances and excellent recitations, given by Mr. Bucknill. Later in the afternoon the younger portion of the company adjourned to the spacious oak hall, where, to the strains of an excellent band, dancing was kept up till dark. Amongst the guests were Lady Katherine Bannerman, Sir Anchitel and Lady Ashburnham, Sir Archibald Lamb, Major-General Sir Archibald and Lady Anson, Sir Henry and Lady Brind, Lady Parish, Sir James and Lady Colquhoun, Sir Howard and Lady Elphinstone, Baroness von Normer, Mr. G. V. Hill, Mr. Fitzwarrine Chichester, Lady and Miss Norcott, Mr., Mrs., and Miss Crake, Mrs. and the Misses Cass, Mr. and Mrs. Wilson-Noble, &c. The hostess wore a Parisian toilet, consisting of white broché, trimmed with lace, and adorned with yellow satin ribbons; a bunch of terra-cotta begonias and white lilies was worn at the throat; coiffure, a large white hat with white and yellow feathers. Her two little daughters, Miss Beatrice and Miss Violet Lucas-Shadwell, looked picturesque in costumes composed of pale blue nun's veiling and scarlet painted jabots, and large Leghorn hats adorned with scarlet poppies. Mrs. Wilson-Noble wore a *recherché* costume of handsome cream figured satin, and bonnet trimmed with plumes and aigrette to correspond. Lady Brind's dress consisted of black satin, handsomely embelliched with jet, and bonnet to correspond. Misses Crake wore cream nun's veiling, trimmed with cream lace; hat and feathers to match. Miss Norcott looked well in a pale pink zephyr costume, with bonnet to correspond, embellished with a brown wreath.

Sir William Harcourt was the principal speaker at a Liberal gathering at Plymouth on Thursday night. Replying to a resolution recognising his eminent services and expressing confidence in Mr. Gladstone and the leaders of the Liberal party, he took a general survey of the political situation since the acceptance of office by the Conservatives. The change of Government, he said, had not been without its advantage, because they had had an opportunity of showing the manner in which a Parliamentary opposition ought to be conducted. The present Government made their terms with Mr. Parnell and his friends. They paid their price, and they had the equivalent. Sir William went on to speak of foreign policy, and said that in Afghanistan and in Egypt the Conservatives had carried out the policy which they had condemned when in Opposition. With regard to Sir Henry Wolff's Mission, he warned the country against establishing the Turk as caretaker in Egypt. Having ridiculed the Commission on Trade, and referred to the state of Ireland and Mr. Parnell's separatist policy, in opposition to which he agreed with Lord Hartington and Mr. Chamberlain, he went on to contrast Tory and Liberal legislation. As to the future programme of his party, Sir William said that the task of promulgating it belonged to, and would soon be performed by, the man who had the authority to do it—by the great chief of the Liberal party. Mr. Gladstone had returned from abroad in first-rate health, in excellent spirits, and quite prepared for the great contest that lay before him. And, after all, the real question will ultimately come to be at the ballot-box: whether the fortunes of England for the next few years are to be disposed of by Lord Salisbury—he should rather say by Lord Randolph Churchill—or by Mr. Gladstone. Noticing the criticisms upon Mr. Chamberlain, who, he said, next to Mr. Gladstone, was the best-abused man in England, Sir William observed that the Tories always must have a bogey. He added :—"I happen to know Mr. Chamberlain very well, and he is not a terrible man at all. He is not only a very able man, but he is a very sagacious and prudent politician, and I think everybody recognises that his recent speeches, whether they agreed with them or not, have been moderate, reasonable, long-sighted discussions of the future." In conclusion, Sir William referred to land law reform, the question of education (upon which he shared Mr. Chamberlain's views), local government, and the drink question—arrears of legislation which he hoped the next Parliament would dispose of under the impetus given by the new electorate.

At the Oakwell Colliery, Ilkeston, on Thursday, a serious accident occurred, owing to the cage which was being drawn up being dragged violently to the top, where it became detached and fell on the engine-house. It was some hours before anything could be done to get out the 300 men in the pit, and it was found that this could only be effected through the furnace shaft, the fires in which were put out. The work was then commenced, and it was expected that by midnight they would be all brought to the surface.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC.

NEW ACROSTIC RULES.

A Prize of One Guinea is given every month for the successful solution of the Acrostics that appear in the *John Bull*.

The present monthly competition will include the Acrostics that are given on September 5, 12, 19, and 26.

At the end of the month, in case competitors tie, they will proceed to guess off the ties, being debarred from prize-winning in the fresh monthly competitions so long as they are engaged in contesting the ties.

No competitor can gain more than two Monthly Prizes in the course of the year.

All solutions must be forwarded not later than the Monday week following the appearance of the Acrostic, addressed to the ACROSTIC EDITOR of the *John Bull*, 6, Whitefriars-street, Fleet-street, E.C., and signed by a pseudonym of not inordinate length.

Alternatives to the number of three are allowed.

All solutions received are acknowledged, whether correct or not.

ANSWER TO DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 1.

(SEVENTH MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

1. A lia S
2. L oad-lin E
3. P anam A

Solutions have been received from Express, Noryb, Knutsford, Viz, The Owl, Hadji, Tim, S.O.F., Waddles, Camensis, L.E.L., Vertumnus, Godiva, Tilly Slowboy, Mrs. Mumms, Dresden China, Trouville, Chelmsford, Magnet, Hampton Courtier, Sociable, Ketha, Katydid, Peewit, Allspice, Etak, Pen, Pansy, Two Countesses, Todcat, Iris, Paddy, Conjecture, Pegasus, M.A.E.B., Whaup, Persevere, Muddle, Random Shot, James Crow, Noremac, and Culverin.

JULY TIES.—It was inadvertently stated last week that Senga had fallen out of the competition. A Casual and Land o' Nod, having equally failed to answer the Acrostic, all three remained competing.

A Casual and Land o' Nod have sent correct solutions and remain competing. Senga, whose solution is incorrect, falls out of the competition.

AUGUST TIES.—Roma and Bios have sent correct solutions, and remain competing.

DOUBLE ACROSTIC, No. 3.

(SEVENTH MONTH, TENTH YEAR.)

PROEM.

A saint that to Yorkshire at least is dear,
Of whom just now we are wont to hear.

1.

The sweet heroine of a statesman's story,
Who not in fiction alone achieved some glory.

2.

One who Italy helped to unite
Was wounded and captured in this fight.

3.

Where the Tyrol meets Carinthian land,
Stretching afar you may see it stand.

4.

Blue skies above, blue seas before,
It thrones on the Bay of Angels' shore.

5.

In Northern legend his name appears,
And of him in England each week one hears.

Mr. Dillwyn, M.P., who since his accident has seemed to progress satisfactorily, is reported to have had a somewhat serious relapse on Thursday morning.

The Irish Parliamentary party have agreed to recommend the holding of county conventions with the National League in Wicklow, on the 5th of October; Queen's County, on the 7th; Meath, on the 8th; Cork, on the 12th; Dublin, on the 13th; and, subsequently, Westmeath, Waterford, Cavan, Fermanagh, and King's County, the dates to be fixed to suit convenience. The League is actively engaged by their agents throughout the country, in preparations for the opening electioneering campaign.

The polling for the aldermanic vacancy in Bridge Ward occasioned by the death of Sir Charles Whetham opened at ten o'clock yesterday morning, in the vestry-room of St. Magnus, London-bridge. The candidates were Mr. Stuart Knill, citizen and goldsmith, and Mr. J. V. Moore, citizen and loriner. The former was elected by a majority of fourteen.

The Gresham Committee have given notice that the lectures founded by Sir Thomas Gresham will be read to the public on the following days, at 6 o'clock in the afternoon, in the theatre of Gresham College, Basinghall-street, in the order stated :—Astronomy (the Rev. E. Ledger), 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th of October; Physic (Dr. Symes Thompson), 13th, 14th, 15th, and 16th of October; Rhetoric (Mr. J. E. Nixon), 20th, 21st, 22nd, and 23rd of October; Law (Dr. J. T. Abdy), 27th, 28th, 29th, and 30th of October; Divinity (the Dean of Chichester), 3rd, 4th, 5th, and 6th of November; Geometry (the Dean of Exeter), 10th, 11th, 12th, and 13th of November; and Music (Dr. Henry Wylde), 17th, 18th, 19th, and 20th of November.

Professor Thorold Rogers, M.P., has made a very important discovery while pursuing his investigations at Cambridge for additional volumes of his work on the *History of Prices*. This is a set of accounts kept at King's College during 120 years, with the exception of one year, beginning with the year 1533. There is information accessible with regard to the missing year, so that the series of accounts is practically complete for the entire period. In addition to the facts furnished as to prices, these accounts contain many curious details illustrative of social life in olden days.

Many persons will, like the *Athenæum*, regret to hear that the committee formed for renewing the excavations on the site of the great Temple of Ephesus have been unable to obtain by subscription the minimum amount needed for the work. Mr. Wood will next week leave for Rome, but it is hoped sufficient money may yet be raised to enable him to begin work at Ephesus.

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